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MEMOIR OF EBENEZER RHODES.

Author of "Peak Scenery."

BY JOHN HOLLAND, ESQ.

EBENEZER RHODES, whose name stands at the head of this article, although not himself born in the county of Derby, was so long and intimately associated by friendship with one of its most distinguished sons; and so honourably known for his elaborate, and elegant description of its picturesque beauties, that it is the wish of the Editor of the "RELIQUARY" to give a Memoir of him in its pages. I concur in that view; and am only sorry that the task of collecting and arranging such information as may be accessible has not fallen into abler hands than mine.

Ebenezer Rhodes was born in 1762, at the Holmes, in Masbro', a suburb of Rotherham, where ten years after Ebenezer Elliott, the celebrated "Corn-Law Rhymer," first saw the light. The locality thus indicated, and now so familiar to the readers of "Bradshaw," as a station on the North Midland Railway, was formerly known chiefly in connection with its iron-works, where cannon for government were cast, and bored by the Messrs. Walker, the effects of whose enterprise, wealth, and worth, were long felt, and are yet visible in that neighbourhood. At this establishment John Rhodes, the father of our author was employed; and it is probable, that in his peculiar baptismal name, as in that of his celebrated poetical townsman, there was a lingering reflex of those Non-conformist principles which characterised the Walkers and many of their servants.

On the 28th of February, 1777, Ebenezer Rhodes was bound apprentice to Thomas Cousins, of Sheffield, scissormith, the indenture securing his service for seven years. After completing this term, he worked sometime at the craft, indulging at the same time, a fondness for reading—especially dramatic works. His taste and turn of mind thus indulged, not only led him to visit the theatre as often as his

means allowed; but flattering himself, and being encouraged by some of his friends with the notion that he had talents for an actor, he spent a season on the stage. Undeceived by the experiment, he wisely returned to the workboard with better success. After a while, being active, intelligent, and enterprising, like many other young men about him, he entered into partnership with David Champion, then a scissor-grinder, at Sheffield, who was earning fabulous wages in a branch of labour requiring a much larger amount of manual ingenuity than is commonly supposed; of course, the demands of the warehouse, ere long, superseded the personal toils and profits of the grindstone: the excellent quality, steady demand, and good price of the articles manufactured, were grounds of prosperity. To the production of "Fine Scissors," the firm, in due time, added the making of Razors; and in both these classes of articles acquired a well-merited reputation.

How early, or exactly in what way, Mr. Rhodes began to allow a taste for art, and the attractions of scenic beauty to divide his attention with the drudgery of booking and invoicing cutlery, is unknown; but his early intercourse with Chantrey and Montgomery, led in that direction; other causes contributed to the same results. "Debating Societies" as they were called, and having mostly for one of their objects—really, if not ostensibly—the discussion of political questions were numerous about the close of the last century; they were ultimately suppressed by order of government, on the ground that they were schools of sedition. One of these associations, called "The Society of the Friends of Literature," existed in Sheffield; its meetings were held at a public-house in the Wicker, and among its members Mr. Rhodes held a conspicuous place, as an intelligent and fluent converser not only on such subjects as might seem to be predicated by the very title of the association, but as a "Jacobin" politician. The opprobrium of this epithet was, for a time, shared by two of his companions, who afterwards acquired something more than literary distinction, viz.—the Rev. John Pye Smith, the eminent theological tutor and writer; and James Montgomery, the Christian poet and philanthropist.* There were, of course, other members whose names might be found in the local Directory of the period, some of them with intensely anti-ministerial sympathies; others as unfettered in their religious, as in their political opinions: and almost to a man, fond of a pipe. Several years afterwards, Mr. Rhodes, whom Dr. Johnson would *not* have described as "an unclubbable man," used to spend his room "No. 4" being reserved for their special accommodation. From evenings with a group of intelligent townsmen at Healey's Hotel; thence, he, with others, adjourned to meet with a different "set" at a well-known public-house in the Haymarket; where his chief competitor in social dialogue—especially when the conversation happened

* Both the individuals above-named, presently abandoned these nocturnal symposia, when yielding their convictions and their lives to the influence of evangelical religion: happy would it have been for their old companion, had he, in this respect, followed the example of his friends.

to take a literary turn—was an amiable man, William Brownell, who had been on the stage, and afterwards printed a small volume of verse. I am assured by an individual, who for eighteen years met Rhodes at these symposia, that they were rather intellectual than convivial; it might be so; but most of the members were married men, and it is no breach of charity to suppose that the noctes indicated, however sober and pleasant, were but ill-adapted to foster home attachments, or to illustrate the domestic and fireside virtues of *pater-familias*.

Intensely interested in dramatic literature, especially that portion of it which constantly found expression and action on the stage; and encouraged rather than deterred by the common fate of amateur Shakspeare's, authors as well as actors, Rhodes ventured upon the bold experiment of writing a play, and performing its principal character in the Sheffield Theatre! Of the style and drift of the piece, we have the means of judging; for in 1789, he printed anonymously, and by subscription, a volume comprising "Alfred, an Historical Tragedy: and a collection of Miscellaneous Poems, by the same Author." The failure of numerous attempts to exalt by poetry that interest which the plain history of the illustrious Saxon King has ever excited, is well known; and it is no disgrace, that in this respect, the young Sheffield manufacturer shared the luck of the experienced poet-laureate of his day, who tried his hand on the same inviting and patriotic theme. An extract from this now *rare* drama must be given. Of course, Alfred is in love—and the following dialogue occurs between him and one of his attendants, relative to the fair Ethelwitha:—

ALFRED.

Prithee, Ethelbert, speak not thus again;
Thy warm, enthusiastic speech, in praise
Of beauty, would fan the sparks now kindling
In my heart, to an ungovernable flame,
Did not the stoic apathy of Edward,
Who, quite insensible to beauty's charms,
With stern philosophy retards its progress.

EDWARD.

My liege, you do me wrong: I speak of beauty
As a secondary quality, which
Gives new charms to virtue.
And yet, though such its essence, its brightest rays
Are but as moonbeams in a cloudless night,
Which please the eye, but never reach the heart.

ALFRED.

Such was the language of the sage Ofreda;
The venerable friend and tutor of my youth,
Chance first directed me to where he dwelt,
In a rude cave, with ivy overgrown,
Precluded from the bustle of the world:

There frequent have I stole on hasty step,
 Intent to hear the precepts, which he strove
 To plant indelibly upon my mind.
 Oft would he say—
 "Beauty alone is but a transient flower—
 Soon withers, and as soon forgot! But virtue
 Bids defiance to the ravages of time :
 A smiling cherub sits enthroned above
 To register with joy its every act,
 And be its passport to eternal sweets :
 And though a casual error stain the page,
 Virtue's next act obliterates the record."
 O thou blest shade of him I loved, and long revered,
 Watch o'er my every step, and guide me still
 To virtue !

EDWARD.

And could the fage Ofreda, then,
 Have counsel'd you, in moments such as these,
 To think of love ?

ALFRED.

Consummate beauty claims
 The ardent sigh ; the tribute due to perfection.
 I had beheld our Saxon, Danish, and
 Our British maids long time unmoved, but when
 I saw the fair Ethelwitha, in whom
 Enchanting sweetness, and awe-inspired dignity,
 Are blended with such perfect harmony,
 How could I choose but love ?

ETHELBERT.

And what, my liege, can bar its consummation ?
 Are not you a King ? And is not she the
 Daughter of a subject ? Nay, more—of your subject, too :
 I think you might command her.

ALFRED.

Command her !
 No ! were she the meanest subject in my land,
 Still should her love be free, nor meet compulsion :
 Beside, so delicate the texture of
 My passion, that I should loathe the embraces
 Which flow'd but from command.

ETHELBERT.

If I offend my liege—

ALFRED.

Thou say'st, Ethelbert, that I am a King—
 Does, then, the name of King tolerate one man
 To exercise an arbitrary tyranny
 Over the mind and body of another? No!
 'Tis not the faintly look that makes the faint:
 Nor does the flowing robe, the rich enamell'd crown,
 Or elevated title, make a King.
 There is a principle within, something divine,
 A spark from heaven, which dims at every act
 Not sanctioned by approving justice:
 Kings are the legal delegates of heaven;
 And shall we then break down the barriers of right,
 And plunder those heaven meant us to protect?
 I shudder at the thought!"

These sentiments are, for the most part, unobjectionable enough, as uttered in the position of the dramatist: whether they probably had been entertained in reality by the interlocutors named; or how far they are such as Shakspeare would have attributed to them, had he drawn the characters, is another question.

The play terminates with the soliloquy of Alfred in the Isle of Athelney, on

"—— A Victory!

Of which each future age shall taste the bounty,
 And own with us that, though oppression triumph
 For awhile, some greater power beholds
 Th' unequal conflict; wars on the side of justice,
 And gives at length, success to suffering virtue."

With what amount of merit or success the author of "Alfred" personated his hero, I do not know; but his stature and general gait need not have disparaged his acting.* The "Miscellaneous Poems," although of a fugitive character, do the writer no discredit in a literary point of view. Mr. Rhodes married Miss Hill, of Sheffield, who, it is fair to presume, was the "Maria" of the love-verses in the volume just mentioned. Of this union there were seven children; five of whom survived their parents.

I know little of Mr. Rhodes during the ensuing ten years, beyond the fact of his continued attachment to the theatre, as evinced by the production of two or three addresses of a loyal character, which were spoken from the stage: and the cultivation of his acquaintance with Chantrey and Montgomery—both destined to achieve the triumphs and share the rewards of genius though in different directions: and

* He was, in fact, to the end of life what would be called "a good-looking man." There is a capital three quarters portrait of him painted by Poole, in the Cutlers' Hall, Sheffield. The likeness prefixed to this Memoir (Plate XVI.) is from a portrait of Rhodes from the pencil of the late Sir Francis Chantrey, executed when both the artist and the author were young. The picture belongs to Mr. W. H. Eadon, of Sheffield, to whose kindness the Editor of the "RELIQUARY" is indebted for the present use of it.

alike destined to give substantial evidence of regard for their early friend, when their relative positions had greatly changed !

Montgomery and Rhodes became acquainted about 1792, very soon after the arrival of the former in Sheffield. They were both in the habit of walking in the direction of Eckington ; and having on one occasion fallen together in the pleasant field-path by Ridgway, they often met afterwards for the discussion of public, literary, and personal topics. Early in 1803, Montgomery wrote in his popular newspaper, "The Iris," a series of articles on the subjugation of Switzerland by Buonaparte, and in which the spirit of poetry was not less evident than the sympathetic ardour in which the patriotism of the trampled Helvetian was deplored—one of the paragraphs having especially this character.

"I wrote that article," said Montgomery to Mr. Holland, "with the utmost feeling and sincerity ; for I sympathised with the citizens from my very soul." He uttered the words with a violence of emotion, that seemed to resuscitate his original sensations on the subject." I reflected especially," he added, "upon the mournful interest with which the exiled patriot would hear and sing his favourite '*Ranz des Vaches*' in a foreign land. Among others, my friend Mr. Rhodes was exceedingly pleased with what I had said, and when we next met, he observed, that the fate of Switzerland would be an interesting subject for a poem ; and pressed me to undertake it. 'Well,' I replied, 'I will make a ballad of it.'" Montgomery immediately commenced the composition of his poem : his whole soul was presently absorbed by his subject ; an undertaking which was expected to end in producing only a ballad, became a more serious affair, and terminated in a work which was to become the foundation of the future fame of the author. Mr. Rhodes not only suggested the subject, but encouraged the poet in his task, and accelerated, by his persuasions, the publication of the poem ; for so little did Montgomery himself calculate upon the immediate and subsequent celebrity of his work, that almost three years were suffered to elapse between the date of the paragraph alluded to, and the appearance of the "Wanderer of Switzerland."—*Memoirs of Montgomery*, ii. 28.

The foregoing incident deserves to be mentioned to the credit of Mr. Rhodes,* for it was clearly a turning point in the history of his gifted friend : nor was this the only service to which the rising reputation of the poet was indebted. Chantrey had painted an excellent likeness of Montgomery : this portrait was engraved, and with a very pleasing and judicious memoir of the poet, written by Rhodes, appeared in a monthly publication, entitled "The Mirror."

More than half a century ago, I used to notice a placard which appeared on the walls simultaneously with the recurrence twice a year

* He had indeed himself, in a rhyming and patriotic "Address," spoken at the Sheffield Theatre, in December, 1803, anticipated the time when—

"Even the poor Swiss, oppress'd and harass'd long,
May tune to Liberty his mountain-song ;
May find restored his heritage on earth,
And once more love the place that gave him birth."

of Sheffield Fair, and headed "Stop Thief!" This was a seasonable warning issued by "The Association for the Prosecution of Felons," of which Mr. Rhodes was President. Of the rules and services of this local paction, I know nothing beyond the appearance of the manifesto just mentioned; the pleasant interlude of an annual dinner; and the fact, that in August 1808, the members gave their president a gold cup, "in acknowledgment of his public services in the establishment of the Institution."

In 1809 appeared an "Essay on the Manufacture, Choice, and Management of a Razor. By E. Rhodes, Cutler, Sheffield."—"A Trade Puff!" exclaims the reader. Not exactly so; the "Essay," however it might be intended to serve the author's business firm, as reputed makers of the article described, certainly contains hints that merited, and have had, a much wider influence. Even in our day, when fashion and the razor may almost be said to be antagonistic; and when *not* to be "bearded like a pard," is as much the exception, as in Mr. Rhodes' time it was "the rule with chins"—thousands of men, rich and poor, young and old, fashionable and otherwise, still find their daily comfort not a little dependent on the operation of shaving, whether performed *propriis manibus*, or by a barber. Thus much may be said in passing, relative to a practically useful, though now neglected pamphlet; and to which, for information on the mysteries of making, forging, hardening, tempering, and grinding cast steel; as well as for the comparative merits of the "Old English," "Ground on a four-inch stone," "Rattler," or "Frame-bladed" razor, the curious reader is referred to the Essay itself.

About forty years since, the *Esprit de Corps Dramatique* in Sheffield, on the stage and off the stage, led to the formation of a "Shakspeare Club," the demonstrative feature of which was an annual convivial meeting of the members and their friends, who, in enthusiastic after-dinner speeches, quoted and praised the "Bard of Avon," with other dramatic authors, popular actors, and the supporters of the theatre generally. Of this club Rhodes became the president; a fact mentioned here, not as remarkable in his case personally, but because the "sayings and doings" of the party led not only to periodical conflicts between the pulpit, the press, and the playhouse, but to a protest against the theatre signed by every clergyman in Sheffield, and the annual delivery of a sermon, having the same object, in one of the churches.

In September, 1809, Mr. Rhodes, having passed through the preliminary stages of junior and senior warden, was sworn into office as "Master Cutler," the highest complement which the Incorporated Staple Trades of Sheffield could then confer upon a townsman. The individual thus distinguished, inaugurated his accession to what might be called the civic chair, by presiding at a sumptuous dinner, mostly given out of the funds and in the Hall of the Corporation, and called "The Cutlers' Feast;" some of the nobility and neighbouring gentry being usually invited guests of the Master Cutler on these occasions. Speeches are made, of course; and although compliments and not politics are understood to be the rule, trespassers even in those days—

and still more frequently since the time that the "Borough Members" have been present—have boldly or incidentally crossed the invisible boundary. In the case before us, I believe the speech from the chair was deemed excellent for a tradesman. On the day following, Mrs. Rhodes, emulating the example of fashionable ladies similar circumstanced, entertained a gay party mostly of her own sex, at dinner and dance, at the Assembly Rooms, in Norfolk Street.

The duties devolving upon the Master Cutler, were directly the maintenance of the quality of the cutlery manufactures of the district, with regard to the granting and protecting the "trade marks" of the masters. It was also expected that he should preside at public meetings; and take part generally in whatever concerned the welfare of Hallamshire, or, as it might happen, in questions involving an expression of the national mind. Rhodes had not been a month in office before he was called upon to preside at a public meeting, convened to present an "Address of congratulation to His Majesty, on the signal and successful efforts of Spain against the perfidy and tyranny of France." At this time, his firm shared with their townsmen the distressing effects of that "stagnation of trade," which caused ten thousand persons to apply for relief from a local subscription fund! But neither local sympathy nor national excitement—his share in the efforts to obtain a Police Act, or his participation in the public meeting to compliment Colonel Wardle on the result of his inquiry into the conduct of the Duke of York, could divert him from the indulgence of his taste for literature and art: the Sheffield Library, and several periodicals attesting this. In 1812, government made certain "Orders in Council" affecting the trade between this country and the United States, in consequence of which Congress prohibited the importation of British manufactures. These measures, with the general effects of the war, caused such a stagnation of trade, that flour was between five and six shillings a stone, and serious riots took place in the streets of Sheffield. At this crisis Mr. Rhodes was one of a deputation sent to London to give evidence touching the revocation of the obnoxious orders, a measure which was happily effected a few weeks afterwards. In 1813, the partnership existing between "Rhodes and Champion" expired by effluxion of time, the former continuing the manufacture of scissors and razors, on the old premises in the Wicker. This circumstance was, immediately and ultimately, unfavourable to Rhodes: it conspired with the growing spirit of trade competition, and other causes, to narrow the basis of his business action; but he still enjoyed, with unruffled zest, the fireside-fellowship of his sociable companions; attended and criticised theatrical entertainments; and indulged his fondness for contemplating and describing the beauties of our English landscape. It was thus fortunate for his reputation as an author, that, enthusiast as he was in fine productions of the brush on canvas, he did not confine his admiration of the beautiful or the sublime in natural objects, to the pictorial effect of the best-painted scenery about the stage.

In 1817, appeared the prospectus of that work, upon the interest and merits of which the reputation of Mr. Rhodes, as an author, was

to rest ; and in the May of the year following, the first part was delivered to subscribers, under the title of "Peak Scenery ; or Excursions in Derbyshire, made chiefly for the purpose of Picturesque Observation. Illustrated with engravings by Messrs. W. B. and Geo. Cooke, from drawings made by F. L. Chantrey, Esq., R.A.

'Ah who can look on Nature's face
And feel unholy passions move ?
Her forms of Majesty and Grace,
I cannot choofe but love.'"

It contained a detailed Dedication to His Grace the Duke of Devonshire. Three other Parts followed at long intervals, dedicated respectively to the Duke of Rutland, the Duke of Norfolk, and ("without his permission") to "F. Chantrey, Esq., R.A., F.S.A., &c., to whose talents as an artist this publication is eminently indebted for the success with which it has been honoured by the public." As the excursion described in this concluding portion of the work commences at Norton, the author devoted nearly twenty quarto pages to a "Memoir of Chantrey the Sculptor." * This, as the artist was then rapidly rising in reputation and wealth, was probably with general readers the most interesting chapter in the book : it was indeed the mine, from which, for a long time, all popular information concerning the early life of the "British Phidias" was derived. A similar remark, indeed, might be made respecting the various biographical notices incidentally introduced, as illustrative of the *genius loci* in different parts of the work. Of the literary merits of the work—the taste, accuracy, and ability displayed in the descriptive portions, it is almost impossible to speak too highly—nor too gratefully—if tourists who have subsequently made the beauties of Derbyshire their theme, had fairly acknowledged their obligations. The materials—"objective and subjective," to use a modern expression—out of which the contents of these five hundred pages were elaborated, occupied the author's attention for fully seven years : during which the manuscript was subjected to comparison, correction, and revision, by the author and his literary friends, to an extent that would be scarcely credible with the adroit performers *currente calamo* of our day. In his introduction, the author, after describing the comparative neglect which Derbyshire, rich as it is in materials for picturesque description had experienced, and expressing his determination to delineate its beauties on a canvas for size, and with a distribution of colour and detail more worthy of the subject, says—"This highly interesting county abounds with objects of a more important character than rocks and rivers, dales and moun-

* Interspersed throughout the work are several pleasing biographical notices of Peak celebrities—among them the Rev. Peter Cunningham, the poetical curate of Eyam, a village remarkable for its plague visitation in 1666, and interesting to me as the subject of one of my own early poems : and William Newton, "The Minstrel of the Peak," as Miss Seward called him, and to see whom I once made a long pilgrimage ; he is now before my "mind's eye," as I found him at Cressbrook, an old man, with long white hair, flowing Ossian-like, in the mountain breeze. (A memoir of William Newton, with a portrait from a sketch by Chantrey, appeared in the "RELIC-QUARY," Vol. I, p. 193.)

tains : objects that may animate the industry, and reward the search of the mineralogist ; supply the antiquary with materials that may excite him to penetrate into the secrets of days gone by, and enable him to unfold the records of former times ; gratify the lover of local history, and furnish to the geological student, and the man enamoured of philosophical speculation, an ample field for the display of their faculties, and the free indulgence of unrestrained conjecture. These, though not intimately connected with the immediate pursuit of the Picturesque Traveller, will frequently present themselves to his observation, and will sometimes require his particular attention." A predicate of observation and record almost co-extensive with the design of the "RELIQUARY" itself.

Even if this were a review of "Peak Scenery," and not a memoir of the author, the difficulty of conveying any adequate idea of the matter and style of the work by brief quotation, must be apparent. The difficulty in this case is not in the lack, but in the abundance of elegant descriptive passages ; and these not dashed off in general terms of admiration, or ebullitions of what is called "fine writing," but, in most instances, displaying a discriminative perception of beauty, and a delicacy in representing it in words, too rarely exhibited even in works of this class. Still, I cannot resist the temptation of giving a single extract from the graphic account of Matlock, "The Switzerland of England"—to which place, and even through its picturesque "High Tor," a railway has been made, so as to facilitate access to that charming and far-famed locality, without—may I not say?—damaging its beauty.

"We again scaled the Heights of Abraham until we had reached the alcove amongst the trees, about half-way up the hill. This lofty eminence presents a rich variety of prospect ; the Derwent fringed with foliage and overhung with rock, winds gracefully through the deep dale below ; and in the pastures which crown Matlock High Tor, we beheld the cattle grazing far beneath us. I had once the gratification, in company with my friend Montgomery, the author of "The Wanderer of Switzerland," "The West Indies," &c., to contemplate this sublime and imposing picture, under circumstances peculiarly favourable. The sky, which had previously been clear and bright, became partially clouded : a heavy shower of rain ensued, which was succeeded by a gentle sprinkling, that fell with almost snowy softness, and formed a veil exquisitely fine, through which the different features of the scene became more soft and tender ; all harmonized in form and colour by the thin medium through which they were beheld. A hazy atmosphere has often a fine effect, particularly where a portion of the sky retains its clearness ; and I never before, not even on the brightest day, saw Matlock to equal advantage. The outlines of the hills, and the form of the woods and rocks, were sufficiently defined ; and, enveloped as they were in a transparent mistiness, their dimensions appeared extended in every part, and they seemed to occupy a greater space in creation than was actually allotted them. On this occasion, the poet wrote with his pencil on the walls of the alcove, the following impromptu :—

‘ Here in wild pomp, magnificently bleak,
 Stupendous Matlock towers amid the Peak ;
 Here rocks on rocks ; on forests forests rife,
 Spurn the low earth, and mingle with the skies :
 Great Nature slumbering by fair Derwent’s stream,
 Conceived these giant-mountains in a dream.’ ” *

Two or three other instances are mentioned in the Memoirs of Montgomery, of the poet meeting with the tourist in Derbyshire. It was for several years, Chantrey’s practice to visit Bakewell in spring, for the enjoyment of fly-fishing in the river Wye, so noted for its grayling. On these occasions, Rhodes often accompanied the sculptor, and was much more anxious about the execution of drawings for the “Scenery” than the success of the angler ; which, in truth, was often little enough, notwithstanding the example and lessons of his friend Hofland.

Although concerned rather with the outlines and colour of the mountains, than their stratification, Mr. Rhodes was not unacquainted with the mineral character of the Peak, as then understood—for geology was only then aspiring to the rank of a science. Elias Hall, at Castleton,† and White Watson, at Bakewell, were practically well acquainted with the rocks of the district : but neither the fossiliferous contents of the carboniferous lime strata, nor their relation to the curious toadstone beds of the district, had then been fully investigated.

Marvellous—as most readers of the “RELIQUARY” will be aware—are the rocks of fossiliferous limestone, especially those containing encrinital remains, which occur in some parts of the Peak ; and which under the name of *Derbyshire marble*, are quarried and wrought into mantel-pieces and other articles. Ashford is described by Mr. Rhodes as yielding not only these and other varieties of calcareous stone, equally hard and susceptible of a fine polish, but “black marble, of a quality which is not surpassed, perhaps not equalled, in any part of the world ; its deep, unvaried colour, and the compactness of its texture, fit it to receive the highest polish ; a mirror can hardly present a clearer or a more beautiful surface—hence it is highly esteemed, but being difficult to work, it is too expensive for common occasions.”

It may be here mentioned, that Mr. Rhodes introduced a method of ornamenting the polished surfaces of articles made of this material, which was capable of almost any degree of artistic development ; and

* I had marked for extract, our author’s description of the far-famed Monsal Dale, and his lively and graphic sketch of the Taddington Lass ; his companion in the latter scene is, I believe, still living : if so, and this page should meet his eye—even where I last saw him in gown and wig in Westminster Hall, he will be glad to see this memoir and portrait of his old friend.

† I was glad, on a visit to Castleton a few weeks since, to find a handsome head-stone over a grave in the churchyard, bearing the following inscription :—“In memory of Elias Hall, the Geologist, who died on the 30th day of December, 1853, aged 89 years. Born of parents in humble life, and having a large family to provide for, yet he devoted himself to the study of geology for 70 years, with powers of originality and industry rarely surpassed. To mark the last resting-place of one who worked so hard and so long for the public, a few of his friends and admirers, living at a distance, have raised this stone.”

which consisted either of slightly "biting in" with acid, or ruling with a diamond point, any design on the stone. Work of this description must have been seen and admired by every visitor to Matlock, even when they did not purchase and carry away some specimen of it as a souvenir of the place.

But the graphic illustrations formed, as it was intended they should do, an important feature of interest in the work. They are twenty-nine in number,* and with three exceptions, are, as we have seen, from sketches made by Chantrey; and judging from specimens which I have seen, these were originally of the slightest possible character. Transferred to the copper by G. and W. Cooke, they exhibit as much of the grace and charm which these celebrated artists were destined to give to the early but immortal works of Turner, as difference of subject required. And it may be proper to mention, that the great painter just named, threw in occasional touches—the rainbow in one of the Dove-Dale views was his suggestion; and I believe the group of children in that and the preceding plate, were drawn by Luke Clennel. In short, the introduction either of the sketches, or proofs of the etchings at Chantrey's dinner-parties, generally led to some additions or improvements. The three sketches alluded to above, were, 1—Of the Old Mansion of the Blythes at Norton-Lees, by Edward Blore, of whom a late number of the "RELIQUARY" contained a memoir. 2—A View of Hathersage, by Mrs. Oates, a daughter of Mr. Rhodes, who painted with skill, and more than once had a place in the Exhibition of the Royal Academy. 3—The Remains of South Winfield Manor House, by Mr. Robert Thompson, formerly a teacher of drawing in Sheffield; and probably the only survivor of that "set" who used to meet nightly at Healey's Hotel, and from thence adjourn to "Madam Smith's" in the Haymarket.

Although the materials of "Peak Scenery" had, as we have seen, for the most part been collected during visits made to the spots described by the author, during his earlier years of health, activity, and hope, the publication itself was doubtlessly undertaken with the aim of pecuniary success. It was in the prospect and importance of this result, that Chantrey contributed the valuable aid of his pencil, and other friends, with a zeal no less generous and praiseworthy, canvassed for subscribers. That such a work, aiming to do justice to the scenic beauty and general outlines of a district so celebrated as North-Western Derbyshire, would be largely patronized by the nobility and gentry of the county, seemed but a reasonable hope, which, however, was not realized; not, at all events, much beyond a return of the

* The following is a list of the illustrations:—Beauchief Abbey; Stoney Middleton; Smelting Mills; Castle Rock; Middleton Dale; View in Eyam; Cross in Eyam Churchyard; Cross at Whetton; View in Sherbrook Dell; View on the River Wye; View in Monsal Dale; Rustic Bridge in Monsal Dale; Cross in Bakewell Churchyard; Haddon Hall; Chatsworth House; Hathersage; Approach to Peak Cavern; View from Interior of Peak Cavern; View from the Winnats into Hope Dale; Watering Place by Roadside; Tufa and Limestone Rocks at Alport; Entrance into Matlock Dale; View of Matlock High Tor; Old Hall at Norton Lees; Remains of North Winfield Manor House; Dove Dale; View from Reynard's Hall, Dove Dale; Northern Entrance into Dove Dale; View of Bolsover Castle.

actual outlay upon the illustrations and typography. The causes of failure, beyond the obvious pretexts of costliness* and want of exciting attraction in the subject, it would be ungracious now to speculate upon; but that they operated effectually is indicated by the following piquant passage from a notice of the work in the *London Magazine*:—"Look at the list of subscribers to the Peak Scenery, and see how cold and insensible the rich and high-blooded lords and gentlemen of Derbyshire are to the romantic and far-famed beauties of their own county. The owners of so many noble mansions and so many green hills, subscribe for some sixty copies, while little smoky, mechanical Sheffield, subscribes for seventy-five. We love the little town for this—we love it because it beats Birmingham in the manufacture of good steel-bladed knives; and the lords and princes of Derbyshire in the love of literature and art: let all writers of verse and prose henceforth mend their pens with knives of Sheffield make."

Whether or not Rhodes was ever a stated contributor to any of the local newspapers, either as a theatrical critic, or a political writer, I am not aware; but occasionally his pen must have been so engaged. In numbers of the "Northern Star," a local magazine published monthly in 1817—1818, he appears as the author of "A Walk to Wharnccliffe;" "A Walk to Sheffield Manor;" a "Monody on Mary Queen of Scots;" and a song written for the Sheffield Volunteers, "In the prospect of Invasion," 1805.

In 1826, Mr. Rhodes announced and published the first part of another work, "Yorkshire Scenery; or Excursions in Yorkshire: with delineations of some of the most interesting objects." Of this experiment, it is enough here to say, that it was unsuccessful; it lacked, indeed, almost every element which had contributed to give *eclat* to the Derbyshire volumes. About this period Mr. Rhodes was engaged in the prosecution of a manufacture, then of comparatively recent introduction, viz.—the production of steel plates for engravers, for the making of which, John Sellars and Sons, of Sheffield, have long enjoyed a deserved reputation. This important article—destined as it was to effect so vast and beneficial a result in a special department of the fine arts—was more indebted to Mr. Rhodes for the extent to which he stimulated the adoption, and the success which attended his production of these plates, than he was to either for pecuniary returns. But the fact is, genius is seldom conducive to business habits; and more rarely so, when the taste of a manufacturer diverts him from the superintendence of his workshops, to the cultivation of *belles lettres*, in any department. The life and lot of our author afforded no exception to this truth; and as it is chiefly as an author that his memoir claims a place in these pages, it may be sufficient here to add, that in 1827, Mr. Rhodes became a bankrupt; and died December 16, 1839, aged 77. The latter years of his life were rendered comfortable by the grateful beneficence of his friends, including the Duke of Devonshire,

* The work appeared in two sizes, viz.—demy 8vo. and royal 4to.; the latter in form, typography, paper, and illustration, forming a book worthy of the palatial libraries of its illustrious patrons.

Sir Francis Chantrey, James Montgomery, and John Bailey—the generosity of the two latter extending beyond his death. It is on the interest and merit of the work on Derbyshire, that our tourist's reputation as an author mainly rests; and one can hardly help regretting that the county which is indebted to him for such an elegant, faithful, and durable memorial of its picturesque beauty, has not acknowledged the compliment by the donation and inscription of a few square feet of one of its native marbles as a mortuary tablet. But none of his readers, his convives, or his family, have paid such a tribute to his memory. He was interred in the Old Churchyard at Sheffield, under a stone which, to this day, has not so much as received the *name* (except as the father of two children buried there), of EBENEZER RHODES, the author of "Peak Scenery!"

NOTES ON THE PARISH REGISTER AND OTHER DOCUMENTS RELATING TO ALVASTON, DERBYSHIRE.

BY THE REV. E. POOLE, INCUMBENT OF THAT PLACE.

ALVASTON, Eddveston, Alvoldeston, Alwarldeston, Allvadeston, or Alewoldstune, in the reign of King Edward the Confessor, was possessed by Tochi. At the period of the Domesday Survey, by Geoffry Alselin, Azelin, or Hanselin. It belonged afterwards to Ralph Fitz-Germund, founder of Dale Abbey, whose descendant, Matilda de Salicosa Mare, daughter of William Fitz-Ralph, Seneschal of Normandy, granted the Manor to that Monastery. The Grange of Alvaston, which had belonged to Dale Abbey, was granted in 1547 to Henry Needham. William Sacheverell died seised of it in 1557. It afterwards passed to the Allestrees and then to the Borrowas.

In the Registry at Lichfield, is an ancient document in Latin, written in Black Letter, of which the following is a translation. It is dated 1440: "Union of the Chapel of Alvaston to the Church of St. Michael, Derby.

"To all Sons of Holy Mother Church to whom these present Letters, or this our public Instrument shall come, Gregory Newporte, of the Degree of Bachelor, Rector of the Parish Church of Handbury, in the Diocese of Coventry and Lichfield, Commissary in the matter hereunder written, lawfully and sufficiently deputed of the Reverend Father in Christ and the Lord William by the Grace of God Lord Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield sends greeting in the Lord and undoubting faith, by these presents. We give notice, and by these presents we will notice to be given unto all of you, that we have received the Letters of the said Reverend Father with that reverence which is due unto him in form of words as follows:—William, by Divine permission, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, To our well beloved son in Christ, Master Gregory Newport, of the Degree of Bachelor, Rector of the Parish Church of Handbury, in our Diocese,

Sends Greeting Grace and Benediction. On the behalf of the Religious men the Abbot and Convent of Derley of the order of Saint Augustine in our Diocese aforesaid. It appears unto us that the Parish Church of St. Michael, Derby, in our said Diocese by them and their aforesaid Monastery, for the sake of religion and hospitality in the said Monastery is held and lawfully appropriated, together with its Member, viz.—the Chapel of Alvaston, to the said Church of St. Michael dependent, and to the same as its Mother Church subordinate and subjected. And, that it appears that to the said Mother or Parish Church, and the Vill of Alvaston so great a multitude of people does not appertain, exist, or belong, as that they ought to have two priests as heretofore, nor are they separate from each other by a long distance of journey. Also, the said Vill is by so small space distant from the same Church and to the same is so near, that in the winter time when rain prevails, the Inhabitants of the Vill aforesaid, as parishioners, without great difficulty or peril, have been able to go to the same at fit times, to be present there at ecclesiastical duties. And the said Mother Church is so poor in rents, and deficient in fruits, that the aforesaid profits of the said Vill of Alvaston are not sufficient for the sustenance of the aforesaid Vicar or Minister, if they have one of its Mother Church. On the part of the said Abbot and Convent, it is humbly supplicated unto us, so far as relates to the dwellers in the said Vill of Alvaston, to unite, consolidate, incorporate, and annex them to the said Mother Church, and also to ordain and decree that the dwellers or inhabitants of the said Vill of Alvaston shall personally on all days as need may be, visit Divine Service offered to God in the said Parish or Mother Church of St. Michael, Derby, there to hear, and all Sacraments and Sacramentals by the hands of the Vicars or Priests for the time being, when divine things are celebrated in the Church, to receive; and all and singular, other things of the like nature, to perform which to the Mother Church ought to be performed, and which by the Parishioners or subjects of the same, are meet to be done, they shall be held and bound, and henceforth obliged to perform, and if need be, by ecclesiastical censure canonically compelled to do. And also, that we would graciously deign for the sake of charity, from henceforth to excuse and utterly exonerate the said Abbot and Convent, and the Vicars whomsoever, of the said Parish and Mother Church for the time being, from all appointment of a Chaplain or Chaplains to serve in the Chapel aforesaid. Wherefore, and for your instruction in this behalf, to enquire and examine concerning the fame and truth of the premises according to the requirements of Law in this behalf, and also, and if all and singular the premises, or at least those of the premises which sufficiently in this behalf by you shall be ascertained as to us it is suggested are true, to settle, order, and ordain, in and through all things according to the petition of the said Religious men the Abbot and convent aforesaid supplicated, calling before you those who of right ought to be called, and obtaining or requiring the consent or counsel of all whom it concerns in this behalf. To you, of our intimate fidelity in the Lord,

we fully confide, and firmly command and commit in our stead with all canonical power whatsoever. Given under our seal in our Manor of Haywood, the sixteenth day of the Month of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand four hundred and forty, and of our consecration the twenty-first year. By force and authority of which Letters, We, Gregory Newporte, Commissary as aforesaid in the said matter, lawfully following the precedents in this behalf of right to be observed, and with due process and lawful proofs exhibited in this behalf, with the consent or counsel of all who are concerned in this matter. At the instant petition on the part of the said Abbot and Convent to the publication of our definitive sentence in the said matter, have proceeded and have given and promulgated the same in form of words as follows: In the name of God, Amen, We Gregory Newporte, of the Degree of Bachelor, of our Reverend Father in Christ and the Lord William by the Grace of God Lord Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, Commissary, lawfully proceeding in the matter specially above written for the uniting, incorporation, and consolidation of the dwellers in the Vill of Alvaston to the Mother and Parish Church of Saint Michael, Derby, in the said Diocese. Whereas, we find that the Church of Saint Michael, Derby, with the Chapel of Alvaston aforesaid, to the Religious men and Convent of the Monastery of St. Mary, Derley, in the same Diocese, lawfully are appropriated, and for the sake of religion and hospitality to the same are granted, and that the said Chapel with its dwellers was and is member of the Parish Church aforesaid, and to the same, as to a Mother Church, subject, and to the said Parish Church and Vill so great a multitude of people as aforesaid does not appertain, exist, or belong, as that they ought to have two Priests as heretofore, neither are they separated by a long distance of journey, also the said Vill is distant by so small a space from the same Church, and to the same is so near, that in the winter time when rain prevails, the inhabitants of Alvaston aforesaid, without great difficulty or peril have been able to go to the same, and at fit times to be present there at ecclesiastical duties, and the said Mother Church is so poor in rents and deficient in profits, that the profits of the said Vill of Alvaston to the aforesaid Vicar or Minister of the said Mother Church coming, are not sufficient for his sustenance. And no canonical impediment exists in this respect, but that the inhabitants of the said Vill of Alvaston with the said Mother Church we ought wholly to incorporate and consolidate. And by virtue of the authority to us in this behalf sufficiently committed, having called before us those who in right ought to be called and proof in this behalf had, and all requisites being observed in order of Law, and the counsel or consent of all whom it concerns in this behalf being afforded the said inhabitants of the same Vill of Alvaston to the said Mother and Parish Church, wholly and to the same, with all other the inhabitants of the said Vill of Alvaston the said Parish or Mother Church of Saint Michael, Derby, aforesaid, on all days henceforth as need may be, shall personally visit divine service offered to God there to hear, and all sacraments and sacramentals by the hands of the Vicars or Ministers of the same for the time being

to receive. And also all and singular, other things of the like nature to perform to the Mother Church which it is meet that the parishioners or subjects of the same should do, they shall be held and bound and henceforth firmly obliged, and if need be by ecclesiastical censure canonically compelled to do, and all and singular, things they shall do, undergo, and acknowledge, which the parishioners of the same church shall be bound to do, undergo, and acknowledge. Moreover, we ordain, appoint, and decree, that the Religious men the Abbot and convent of the Monastery of Saint Mary of Derley, aforesaid, the proprietary and canonical possessors of the said Parish Church of Saint Michael with the Chapel of Alvaston, and also the Vicars of the same Parish Church for the time being, from providing a Chaplain or Chaplains to serve the said Chapel of Alvaston, may henceforth be excused and disburthened as from all things of a like nature, we excuse and disburthen them for ever by this writing. In testimony and witness of all and singular which premises, we Gregory Newporte, Commissary as aforesaid, these our present Letters or this our present Instrument by Master William Wethurby, Archdeacon of Derby, Clerk of the Diocese of Coventry and Lichfield, by public authority Apostolical Notary within written, Registrar of the Bishop's consistory at Lichfield, and actor in the matter aforesaid, have written, subscribed, and commanded to be published, and have corroborated it with his seal and subscription. And because our Seal is not known to many, therefore we have supplicated and procured the seal of the Reverend Father in Christ and the Lord William by the grace of God, Lord Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield to be affixed to these presents. And we William by Divine permission, of the Diocese of Coventry and Lichfield, Bishop aforesaid, at the personal and special request of the said Master Gregory, our Commissary in this behalf as aforesaid, our seal have caused to be affixed in witness and testimony to the premises. This sentence was published in the Church of Saint Peter, in Derby, on the sixteenth day of the month of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand four hundred and forty. The fourth Pontifical Indiction, in the tenth year of the Most Holy Father in Christ and the Lord, Lord Eugenius the Fourth by Divine Providence Pope. Present then and there Lord John Lawe, Canon of the Collegiate Church of All Saints, Derby, and Subdean, John Ryggeway, Vicar of the same Parish Church of Saint Peter, and John Yve, Chaplain of the Chantry of Chaddesden, in the said Diocese of Coventry and Lichfield, witnesses to the premises called and specially requested. And I, William Wethurby, Archdeacon of Derby, Clerk of the Diocese of Coventry and Lichfield, by public authority Apostolical Notary, Registrar of the Bishops Consistory at Lichfield, and actor in all the matters aforesaid, writer of the premises. To make known by the definitive publication to the same Chapel of Alvaston and the inhabitants within the same dwelling, the union, incorporation, and consolidation of the same to its Mother or Parish Church of Saint Michael, Derby, and the affixing of the seal of the same Reverend Father to this Instrument, and also the supplication and procurement of the aforesaid Master Gregory, Commissary, and that all and singular

other things as aforesaid were made and done in the year of our Lord, Pontifical Indiction, month, day, and place, aforesaid. I was personally present, together with the before named witnesses, and all and singular those things I saw and heard so done, and I have written the premises concerning the Decree of the aforesaid Master Gregory Newporte, Commissary as aforesaid, and I have here subscribed the same, and have published and reduced the same into this present form, and signed the same with my usual and accustomed seal and name, being asked and requested so to do in witness and testimony of the premises."

There is also in the Registry at Lichfield, a Copy of an ancient document, of which the following is a translation:—"1499. Agreement between the Vicar of St. Michael's, Derby, and the Inhabitants of Alvaston, &c.

"To all the Children of the Holy Mother Church, to whom these our present letters shall be seen or heard.

"John, by Divine Providence, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield Greeting, in our Lord Everlasting, to whose Provident Circumspection the Government of the Pastoral Flock is committed, by our consent in the meet behaviour of the subjects, and putting an augmentation of Peace to their Tranquility by our authority of Confirmation, in the peace whereof it is now confirmed and rests quiet. Know you all, that of late between the religious men of the Abbey, and Convent of the Monastery of Darley, of the Order of St. Augustine, within our Diocese, and the Vicar of the Parish Church of St. Michael, in the Town of Derby, of the one part, and the Wardens or Church Reeve of the Chappel of Alvaston, near Derby, and the farmers or inhabitants of the Town of Alvaston, aforesaid, of the other part, of and for the finding and presenting of a Chaplain in the aforesaid chappel of Alvaston. And also of and concerning the Nomination, Deputation, and Removal of the said Chaplain. And of and for divers other Articles concerning the matter under written, the matter being risen into great strife and discord—at length by the Mediation of Friends, the parties aforesaid by Advice of Council, and preferring the peace of the matters in controversy, before discord.—They did agree, conclude, and expressly consent in manner and form underwritten. Imprimis, viz.—That the said Abbot and Convent of the Monastery of Darley, Impropiators of the aforesaid Parish Church of Saint Michael, in the Town of Derby, and of the said Chapel of Alvaston of the said Church, shall for ever have, as hitherto they had, all manner of Tythes of Corn, arising in what place soever to the said Town of Alvaston in any way belonging. Moreover, it is agreed and consented unto between the parties aforesaid, that in the Chapel of Alvaston, aforesaid, there shall perpetually be a Chaplain divinely celebrating, to be relieved and sustained of the Lesser Tythes and Oblations in the Town of Alvaston aforesaid, and the precincts of the same, and to the said Chapel belonging and arising, which said Chaplain shall have the Cure of the Parishioners there under the Vicar of the Parish Church of St. Michael, of the town of Derby, and shall Administer the Sacraments and Sacramental Rites unto them, being deputed and admitted by the aforesaid Vicar of the Parish Church

of St. Michael, of the town of Derby, for the time being, and for ever in future times, so that such Priest or Chaplain be deputed and admitted into the Chapel of Alvaston aforesaid, whom the Parishioners of the said Town of Alvaston shall present unto the said Vicar and none other, if he be found fit and sufficient by the said Vicar. And also shall remove him or any other for any reasonable cause if so it seem meet unto him, and another in his place in manner aforesaid, to be appointed so that the aforesaid Parishioners shall not be negligent in so presenting by the space of three weeks from the death or Removal of the last Chaplain, by which negligence for such the Right of nominating and admitting of such Minister for that time, it shall be attributed lawful to the Vicar of the Parish Church of St. Michael, aforesaid, for the time being, and of the rest to be continued in future times. Furthermore, by consent and agreement of the parties aforesaid, it is agreed, that the Farmers and Inhabitants in the Town of Alvaston, aforesaid, shall demand, collect, receive, and take in the name of the said Vicar of St. Michael, in Derby, for ever in future times, all and all manner of Lesser Tythes, by what name soever they be called, of the said Town of Alvaston, and of other places to the said Town belonging, howsoever growing or increasing for the maintenance and sustentation of a Chaplain in the said Chapel, when he shall be thereunto celebrating, saving nevertheless to the aforesaid Abbot and Convent and their successors, the Tythes of hay in what place soever it groweth, as heretofore they have accustomed to have. Also the Farmers and Inhabitants in the town of Alvaston aforesaid, for themselves and their successors in the said town, have expressly by one assent and one mind, without any constraint or compulsion, agreed that they the said Inhabitants will pay or faithfully cause to be paid to the Vicar of the Parish Church of St. Michael, of the town of Derby aforesaid, for his time, and his successors in the aforesaid Church the Vicars for the time hereafter being, for his damage in the cause rehearsed, every year £3 of good and lawful money of England, at two times of the year by equal portions, viz.—at the Feast of St. Martin, in the winter, 30s. ; and at the Feast of Pentecost, 30s., or within six days immediately following either of the said feasts, and so to be continued from year to year for ever. And, moreover, the farmers and inhabitants in the Town of Alvaston, aforesaid, for them and their successors, as is before expressed, have agreed that all or every of them, or the greatest part of them, shall visit the Parish Church of St. Michael, of the town of Derby, once in a year, viz.—at the Feast of Reliques for ever. And to the said Church shall come, and every of them shall come (all lawful Impediments set aside), to hear Divine Service, viz.—Morning and Evening Mattens, as to their Parish Church and Mother Church. And so they have promised to continue from year to year for ever in succeeding Times. And as all and singular the premises concluded and agreed upon between the parties aforesaid, in manner afore rehearsed, are faithfully to be kept and observed, the parties aforesaid have earnestly and humbly intreated us, that so much of the said composition between the parties aforesaid may be drawn into a real form, and to yield our

consent thereunto, which composition will vouchsafe to confirm by our Pontifical Authority. We therefore, John by the Grace of God, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield aforesaid, desiring by a Fatherly affection as much as in us lieth, Peace and Concord between our subjects and favourably endeavouring at the just requests and pious supplications of the parties aforesaid, and of their free will, consent, assent, and express desire, We have brought this present agreement by our ordinary Authority unto a real composition to endure in future times, and have yielded our consent unto the same, and approve of the said Ordinaries, Agreement, and real composition, and do likewise confirm the same, and of our certain knowledge, as much as in us is, have caused the same to be confirmed, and do confirm the same to be according to the tenor of these presents. Moreover, by consent and assent aforesaid, and that all matters of discord in this cause may be rooted out, We do add to this real composition, That if the Farmers and the Inhabitants of the Town of Alvaston aforesaid, hereafter for the time being, shall be in arrears by the space of six days after either of the said Feasts, in any payment of the stipend aforesaid, of three pounds, so as it is agreed to be paid yearly for those fines, according to the ordinance aforesaid, to the Vicar of the Parish Church of Saint Michael, in the Town of Derby, for the time being, and not pay the said stipend at two times of the year within six days then following, according to the ordinance aforesaid, or do not visit the aforesaid Parish Church of Saint Michael in Derby as is before rehearsed, Then We will, ordain, and judge, and determine, that from thenceforth the said chapel of Alvaston aforesaid, for that cause without any further sentence or decree to be had therein. They shall be under the ecclesiastical prohibition, and as well now as then and then as now, by Tenor of these presents, We do put them under the ecclesiastical Prohibition until the said stipend of three pounds, and of every part and parcel of the said stipend so being in arrear, with all and singular damages and arrearages and Expenses and Interest, which by the occasion aforesaid, the said Vicar of the Parish Church of Saint Michael of the Town of Derby for the time being shall have suffered, to the said Vicar be satisfied. And also until the Farmers and Inhabitants in the Town of Alvaston aforesaid, do at another Festival day visit the aforesaid Parish Church of St. Michael in Derby, in like manner as is before rehearsed, and if it so happen the said Chaplain of Alvaston aforesaid being so Prohibited, do continue one Month, that then during the said Prohibition, the aforesaid Vicar of the Parish Church of Saint Michael in Derby shall receive all tythes and all manner of Fruits and Increase to the said Town of Alvaston belonging (except as before excepted), until the said Farmers and Inhabitants of Alvaston aforesaid, shall pay the sum of three pounds, with the arrearages if any be, and until they visit the Parish Church aforesaid, as is afore expressed. Provided that the Farmers and Inhabitants of the Town of Alvaston aforesaid, shall no other ways be charged in the said Church of Saint Michael in the Town of Derby, otherwise than is before expressed, nor in the repair of the said Church, nor any other way to which the Parishioners by Right and custom are bound unto. In defence and

testimony of all and singular the premises, *our* Seals together with the Seals of the Parties aforesaid, We have jointly put to these Presents, Given at our Palace at Lichfield, as well by the putting to of our Seal, the twentieth day of the month of March, in the year of our Lord, according to the computation of the Church of England, One thousand four hundred and ninety-nine, and in the fourth year of our Grace. Furthermore, given by the putting to of the Seals of the aforesaid Abbott and Convent in their chapter house, the Eighteenth day of the month of March, in the year of our Lord aforesaid. And because the Farmers and Inhabitants in the Town of Alvaston aforesaid have not a Seal of Office, they have therefore promised to procure the Seal of the Archdeacons Official of Derby to be put to these Presents. And we, by virtue of our Office, at the special request of the said Farmers and Inhabitants in the Town of Alvaston aforesaid, have put the Seal of our Office to these Presents. Given at the Town of Derby, by the putting to our Seal the one and twentieth day of the month of March, in the year of our Lord aforesaid.

The Old Register of the Parish commences in the year 1614, and is Entitled "The Register for Alvaston in Bougehton oft ye baptissms, weddigs, & burials.".

PERSÖNS BURIED IN ALVASTÖ, 1614.

An Allestree was buried Sep. 20.
By me, John Edmunds, Minister.

PERSONS BURIED IN ALVASTON, 1616.

James Bailie his Old Mother May 10.

William Cooper, of Alvaston & Elizabeth Gilbert of Barrow, were married w^t a litere Oct. 6, 1636.

Such as died of y^e Plague in Boulton in May & June & July, 1637—

Margaret Fezent & two children in her house.
& also Thomas Fezent's Mother.
& also John Coupts his wife & child, June 1637.
& Mary, the wife of William Launt, June.
& George & Joseph y^e Sons of Anthony James, June.
& Mary, the wife oft Michael Lufft, June 22.
& also William Lout & William Storer's Son, June 25.
& John Costs was buried y^e Son of Elizabeth Costs, July 11.
& George y^e Son of Ralph & — Cooper, was buried July 18.
& Ellen his daughter, July y^e 18, & Elizabeth Costs, July 24.

Johannes Edmunds vicarius Sepultus erat May 16, 1639.

Joseph, y^e Son of Francis Woodward and Hannah his wife, was borne about a fortnight before St. Jamestide, in the year of our Lord God, 1655.

Mary, the daughter of Francis Woodward and Hannah his wife, was borne about three weeks before Michaelmas, 1658.

1663.

A Continuation of the Register of all the Weddings, Christenings, and Burials of Alvaston & Boulton, by me, Thomas Pallfreman, their Minister.

George Mardly, of the Brakins, belonging unto Alvaston, buried April 16th.

Memorandum, that in the year one thousand six hundred sixty-five, there dyed of the plague in London and the subburbs thereof, 03—and by many computed ten thousand in one week—a gubintanda S. mynori sa morte libra nos domini 1665. Regno Caroli Secund. 17.

1666.

Gathered in Alvaston and Boulton ffor the ffire at London, the sume of sixteen shillings and seven pence. Rchd. Rugford, Churchwarden.

1678.

From hence forward followeth those that were burydd in woollen according to the Act of Parliament made for that purpose in the thirtieth year of the raigne of our Sovereigne Lord King Charles the Second.

The names of all y^e persons y^t have been baptized, married, or buried by F. V. Grongnet, in y^e Parishes of Alvaston and Bolton in y^e year of our Lord 1698.

In 1701 there are several entries of Baptisms in "y^e meeting," and two Marriages in Osmaston Church.

The Reverend Charles Williamatt, 1715.

The Reverend William Lockett, 1716.

William Lockett resigned the Cure of Alvaston and Boulton, Oct. 16, 1722.

1726. Tho: Shipton, Min^r.

On the Old Parchment cover is the following :—

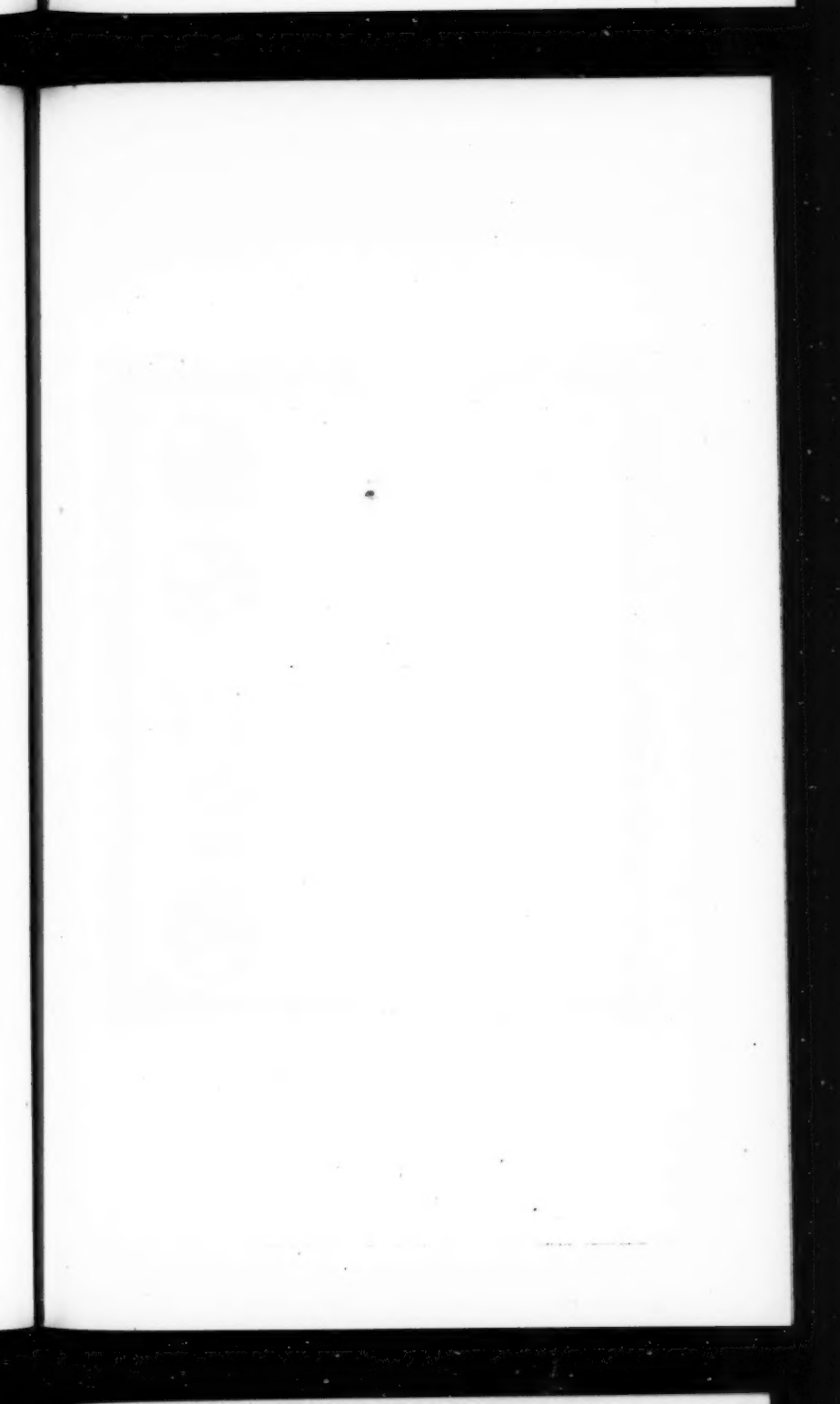
Hugh Broome, Curat, came herther Easter 1702.

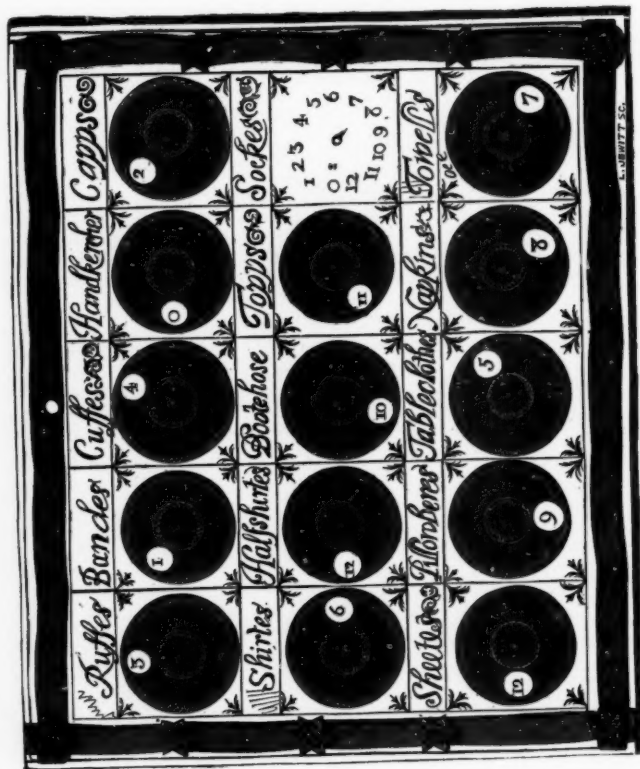
William Lockett, Curate, came hither March 29th, 1716, the Sunday after being Easter Day.

Tho: Shipton, Curate, came hither at Michaelmas, 1722.

Joseph Smith, Curate, was Licensed to Alvaston, Boulton & Osmaston, 29th of July, 1774.

Alvaston, near Derby.





Llewellyn Jewitt, F.S.A., Duxbury, del & sc

ANCIENT WASHING-TALLY FOUND AT HADDON HALL, DERBYSHIRE.

NOTICE OF AN ANCIENT WASHING-TALLY BELONGING TO HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF RUTLAND.

BY LLEWELLYNN JEWITT, F.S.A.

THE curious and highly interesting relic, which, by the kindness of His Grace the Duke of Rutland, I am enabled to bring before the readers of the "RELIQUARY," was recently found at his Grace's magnificent old baronial mansion, Haddon Hall, behind some oak paneling, where it had doubtless lain hid for some generations. It was discovered in that part of the building known as the "Chaplain's Room"—the room in which visitors will remember the old cradle, the jack boots, the fire-dogs, the pewter plates, and other interesting remains are now kept—and which relics I trust to illustrate from time to time in these pages.

The "Washing-Tally," here engraved of a reduced size, is five inches and a half in length, and four and a half inches in depth. It is formed of a piece of beech wood of the size described, and of a quarter of an inch in thickness, covered with linen at the back and sides. In construction it is precisely similar to a "Hornbook." In front, the names of the different articles of clothing are printed from copper-plate, and protected by a sheet of horn. Around the edge a narrow strip of thin brass, fastened down with highly ornamental nails, attaches the horn, the paper, and the linen to the wood. The tally is divided into fifteen squares, in each of which is a dial, numbered from 0 to 12, and above each square is the name of the article intended to be taken into account. The articles are "Ruffles," "Bandes," "Cuffes," "Handkercher," "Capps," "Shirtes," "Half-shirtes," "Bootehose," "Topps," "Sokes," "Sheetes," "Pillowberes," "Tableclothes," "Napkins," and "Towells." On each of the dials is a circular brass indicator, fastened by a little pin in its centre, so as to turn round at pleasure. Each of these indicators is pierced on one side, close to its outer edge, with a round hole, through which one number on the dial is visible. Opposite to this opening is a raised point by which the indicator may be turned.

In keeping an account of the articles "sent to the wash" it was, as will be seen, simply necessary to turn each indicator to the figure representing the number of each article looked out, and when none were sent, the 0 was brought in requisition. I have, for the purpose of this illustration, turned the indicator so as to show each number; and as one of the indicators is fortunately missing, I am also enabled to show one of the dials in full. As the tally now stands, the account of washing would be as follows—

Ruffles	3	Topps	11
Bandes	1	Sokes (indicator removed)	
Cuffes	4	Sheetes	12
Handkercher...	0	Pillowberes	9
Capps	2	Tableclothes	5
Shirtes	6	Napkins.....	8
Half Shirtes ...	12	Towells	7
Bootehose	10		

Towels, however, do not appear at all times to have belonged to the domestic arrangements of the owner of this interesting relic, for in place of that name, the words "*laced bands*" has been written on the horn, in the "olden times." The writing is now nearly obliterated, but may be seen by a careful observer.

Tallies of this description are of extreme rarity, and not one has come under my notice possessing so much interest as it does. Judging from the style of the engraving, the ornamentation, and other matters connected with it, I should assign it to the period, probably, of Charles the First, and this is certainly borne out by the names of the different articles enumerated upon it.

A few words on the different articles of dress, etc., enumerated, may not be uninteresting, although it is not necessary to enter into the subject so fully as if one was writing on costume, or on domestic manners.

The "*RUFFE*" was the frill, or plaited collar, so much worn in the reign of Elizabeth, and in the succeeding reign, by both sexes. The ruffs worn by Queen Elizabeth are familiar to all my readers, as must also be the form of those of other celebrated people of that period. They were of gigantic size, and were straightened and made to stand upright by what Philip Stubbes, in his "*Anatomy of Abuses*," 1583, calls "*the Devils liquor, I mean starche*!" This writer, among other abuses, was most vehement against ruffs, and after speaking of starching the great ruff, etc., he says, "*beyond all this they have a further fetche, nothyng inferiour to the rest, as, namely, three or fowre degrees of minor ruffles, placed gradatim one beneath another, and all under the maister devil ruffe!* each of which are every way pleated and crested full curiously, God wot. Then last of all, they are either clogged with gold, silver, or rich lace of stately price, wrought all over with needle worke, speckeled and sparkeled here and there with the sunne, moone, and starres, and many other antiques strange to behold. Some are wrought with open worke downe to the midst of the ruffe and further; some with close worke, some with purled lace so closed, and other gewgawes, so fastened, as the ruffe is the least part of itself." Some of these ruffs were supported *in situ* by a framework of



wire placed behind. Under the Stuarts the ruffs became much less in size. Their form will be best understood by the accompanying illustration, of the daughter of John Harpur, of Swarkestone, 1622, from the side of his tomb in Swarkestone Church, Derbyshire. This illustration I have chosen, because it shows the costume of a Derbyshire lady at about the period when this Derbyshire relic was used. Mrs. Harpur wears a ruff of moderate dimensions, and of plain character. Her hoop, or

farthingale, is also small and seemly, and far more convenient than those of a few years previous. She wears a tight boddice with a long pointed waist, beneath the lacing of which the "half-shirt," mentioned on the tally, may be seen. She has wide sleeves (to which are affixed pendant ones), and her "cuffs," similar probably to those indicated on the tally, are seen turned back over the wrist. Her hair is combed back over her forehead, and she wears an elegant hood or coif, with a frontlet turned over on to the head. The ruffs worn by the men were of very similar shape. Allusions to these ruffs are "plenty as blackberries" in the writers of the period, but it is perhaps unnecessary to quote them.

The "Band"—the original from which the small bands still worn about the necks of clergymen are derived—were collars of linen,

cambric, or other material, worn around the neck. They were either starched and propped up, or allowed to lie flat upon the shoulders. These latter were called "falling bands." Of the flat plain band, excellent examples are shown on the accompanying engraving of Hyacinth and Elizabeth Sacheverell (1657), in Morley Church, Derbyshire. It may be interesting to remark, *en passant*, that the common term "band-box," which we still use for the pasteboard boxes in which ladies keep their millinery, is derived from this article of attire, the original use of such boxes being to keep ruffs and bands in. Thus



in the curious play of *Match at Midnight*, 1633, we find, "Enter maid with a band-box," who being asked, "Where ha' you been?" replies, "for my mistress' ruff, at the sempstress', sir."

The "Laced Bands" were possibly the richly worked lace neck-cloths which were so characteristic of the Stuart dynasty.

The CUFF was the lower part of the sleeve, which was worn turned back over the wrist, as in the engraving on page 144. Sometimes it was gaily embroidered, sometimes formed of rich lace, and at others was quite plain.

HANDKERCHERS are, of course, handkerchiefs; and they were, in the days when this tally was first used, costly articles. Laced handkerchiefs "first came in vogue" under Queen Elizabeth, and in that and the succeeding reigns were sometimes "laced round with gold." Also—

“ Handkerchiefs were wrought
With names and true-love knots,”

and many other pretty devices, and given and worn as love-tokens—the gallants sometimes wearing them as favours in their hats.

The CAP needs but little remark. The term would of course include night-caps, and these were, under both Tudors and Stuarts, frequently most elegantly embroidered, worked in filagree on velvet or silk, and trimmed with costly lace.

SHIRT was a term applied equally to that part of both male and female attire worn next the skin. They were made usually of fine holland, but not unfrequently of silk, and were occasionally embroidered. The holland shirts of both male and female had, in some instances, the ruffs and hand-ruffs, the bands and wrist-bands, of cambric or lace attached to them.

HALF SHIRTS were stomachers, more richly decorated with embroidery and lace, over which the boddice was laced from side to side.

BOOT-HOSE. Hose formerly were not stockings as we now wear them, but were drawn up the full length of the leg, and sometimes even to the waist, and had pockets in their sides. In the time of the Tudors and Stuarts, they were worn of great variety of materials and of colour, and were, in some instances, very costly. In an old play of 1612, entitled, “*Woman is a Weathercock*,” the following dialogue occurs, “*Kate*—The hose are comely. *Lucida*—And then his left leg! I never see it but I think on a plum tree. *Abraham*—Indeed, there’s reason there should be some difference in my legs, for one cost me twenty pounds more than the other.” Plum-coloured or purple hose, as well indeed as those of almost every other colour under the sun, are named in the old writers. Although of a much earlier period, I cannot help quoting a very droll anecdote quaintly told by Robert of Gloucester, of the blind extravagance of William Rufus over a pair of hose. The Chamberlain brought him a pair worth three shillings, which he disdainfully put aside, and ordered him under pain and penalty to bring him some worth a mark (thirteen shillings and fourpence). The Chamberlain brought him a commoner pair still, but, telling him they cost a mark, the King said they were well bought, and was satisfied! Here is the account—

“ As his chamberlaine him brought, as he rose on a day,
A morrow for to weare, a pair of hose of say :
He asked what they costned ? Three shillings, he seid.
Fy a diable ! quoth the king ; who say so vile a deede !
King to wear so vile a cloth ! But it costned more :
Buy a paire for a marke, or thou shalt ha cory sore !
And worse a paire enough the other swith him brought,
And said they costned a mark, and unneth he them so bought ;
Aye, Bel-amy ! quoth the king, these were well bought ;
In this manner serve me, other ne serve me nought ! ”

Stockings were often called “*NETHER STOCKES*,” and Stubbs, to whom I have before alluded, thus speaks of them in 1596—

“ Then have they *neather stocks* (stockings) to these gay hosen, not of cloth (though never so fine), for that is thought too base, but of jarnsey, worsted, crewell, silke, thread, and such like, or else, at the least, of the finest yarn that can be got ; and so curiously knit with open seame down the leg, with quirkes and clocks about the ancles,

and sometime (haplie) interlaced about the ancles with gold or silver threads, as is wonderful to behold. And to such impudent insolency and shameful outrage it is now growne, that every one almost, though otherwise very poor, having scarce forty shillings wages by the year, will not stick to have two or three pair of these silk nether stocks, or else of the finest yarn that may be got, though the price of them be a royal, or twenty shillings, or more, as commonly it is; for how can they be lesse, when as the very knitting of them is worth a noble or a royal, and some much more? The time has been when one might have clothed all his body well, from top to toe, for less than a pair of these nether *stocks* will cost."

TOPS were the holland, linen, and lace linings and frills, worn around the full hanging boots of the Cavaliers. The tops were exceedingly full and rich among the higher class, and their "getting up" must have been a somewhat tiresome operation for the laundress.

The **SOCK** was frequently beautifully worked, and was drawn on over the hose or stocking and reached up to the calf of the leg.

PILLOWBERES is the old term for what we call "pillow-cases," i. e. the covering of the pillow, sometimes also called "pillow-slips," or pillow-ties." The word is frequently found in old writers, "vii pjllowberys" occurs in an Inventory of goods at Cambridge.

TABLE CLOTH. This term requires no comment, further than to say that table cloths have been in use in England certainly since the Saxon period, and they are found depicted in illuminated MSS. of that and every succeeding age.

NAPKIN. The word was formerly applied to handkerchiefs and table linen, as well as to cloths for head-dresses, etcetera. "Napery" was the general term for linen, especially that for the table.

TOWEL requires no explanation, further than to say, that as personal cleanliness was not always a characteristic of the people of the age to which this tally belongs, probably the number sent to wash was small.

Washing days in the time of the Tudors and Stuarts, though a little more important than in the preceding ages, had none of those unpleasantnesses and terrors which are said now to accompany them. Articles which required washing were "few and far between," whilst those of a texture which would not "stand a wash" were usually worn. The dyer was far more commonly employed than the laundress, and his trade thus covered a "multitude of sins" of omission of personal cleanliness, which the laundress would have remedied with more healthy results.

Velvets, taffeta, and rich silks were, in the middle ages, often worn by the wealthy without any under clothing whatever, while the domestics, and people of lower order, wore coarse woollen, also without under clothing. The possession of a linen shirt, even with the highest nobles, was a matter of note, and it was but few wardrobes which contained them. Night-gowns were not known, and the custom was to sleep entirely without clothing. Under the Tudors night-gowns were worn, but they were formed mostly of silk or velvet, so that no washing was required. Anne Boleyn's night-dress was made of black satin, bound with black taffeta, and edged with velvet of the same colour. One of Queen Elizabeth's night-gowns was of black velvet, trimmed with silk lace, and lined with fur; and in 1568, her Majesty ordered George Bradyman to deliver "three score and six of

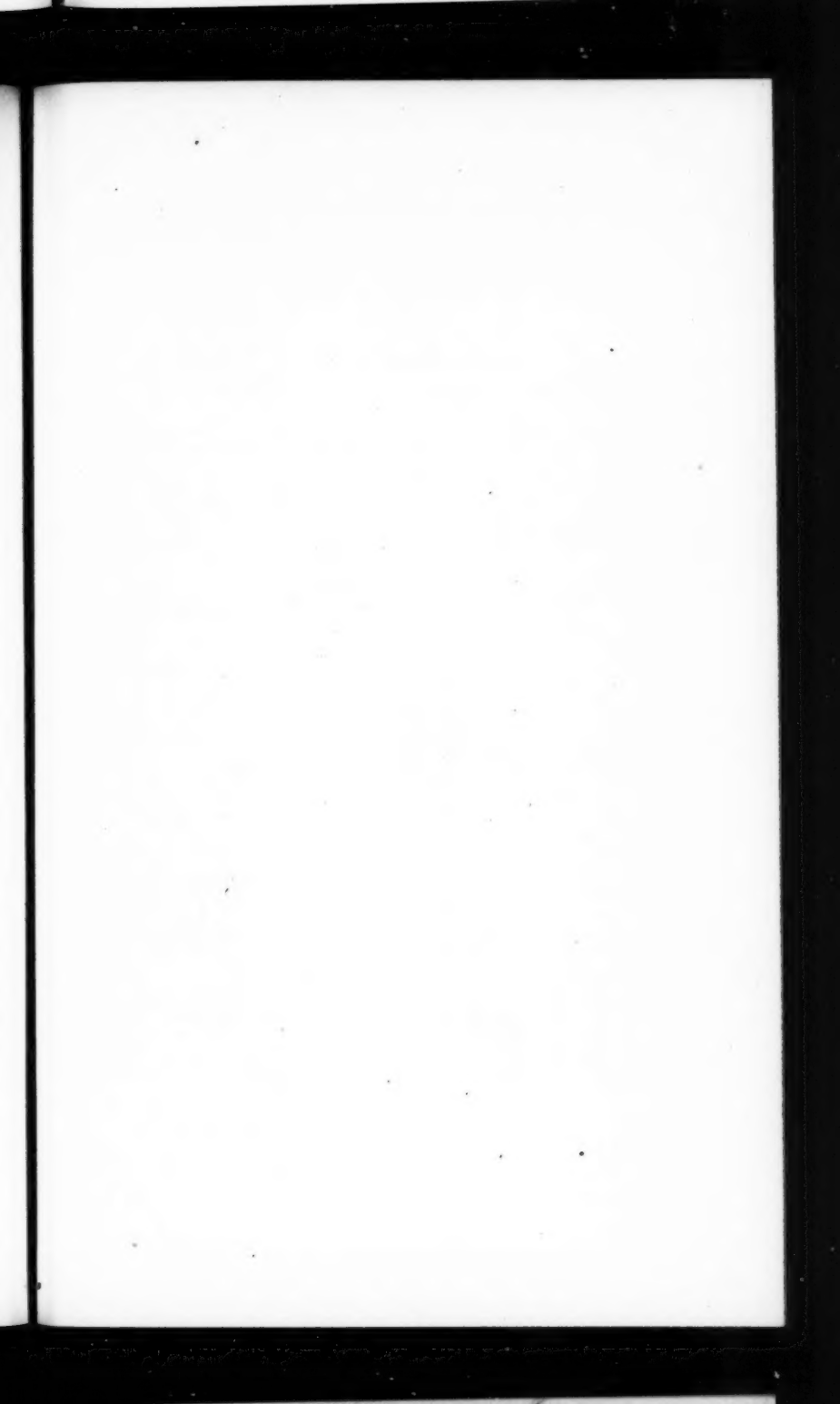
the best sable skynnes, to furnish us a night-gowne." In another warrant from her Majesty in 1572, she orders the delivery of "twelve yards of purple velvet, frized on the backe syde with white and russet silke," for a night-gown for herself, and also orders the delivery of fourteen yards of murry damask for the "makyng of a nyght-gowne for the Erle of Leycester." Night dresses for ladies were, at a later period, called "night rails," and in the reign of Queen Anne, it became the fashion for them to be worn in the day time in the streets, over the usual dress. This gave rise to many curious satires. Night-caps, too, were mostly of velvet and silk, and these, with the velvet night-dresses, the silken shirts, and other matters of a like kind, eased the laundress, though they must have added to the discomfort of the wearer.

Clothes were in former times usually washed in the river, but not unfrequently in the common wells of towns, from which the water was fetched for culinary purposes and for drinking. In 1467, the corporation of Leicester, to prevent the constant fouling of the water, ordered that no woman do wash clothes or other corruption in the common wells. At Lyme, an order by Court was given in 1608, that none do wash their bucks in the street (*i.e.* in the stream of running water which supplied the town), under a penalty of 6s. 8d. The "buck" here alluded to, was the quantity of family linen put to wash. "Buck," was "to wash," and was also used for the quantity of linen washed at once—a tub full of linen "in buck." Thus "to wash a buck," was to wash a tub of clothes; "buck-ashes," were the ashes of which the lye for washing was made; "buck-basket," the basket in which the linen was carried; "buck-pan," the washing-tub; and to be "bucked," was to be soaked or drenched with water. The "buck-basket" will be familiar to every reader, as described by Sir John Falstaff, as "rammed with foul shirts and smocks, socks, foul stockings, and greasy napkins, that, Master Brook, there was the rankest compound of villainous smells that ever offended nostril."

The clothes being placed in the tub, the women, sometimes several in number, with their dresses tucked up, danced upon them to beat out the impurities. When washed at the river side, they were beaten on wood or stones. Under Henry VIII., the Royal laundress was ordered to procure enough "sweet powder, sweet herbs, and other sweet things," as might be requisite for the "sweet keeping" of the linen.

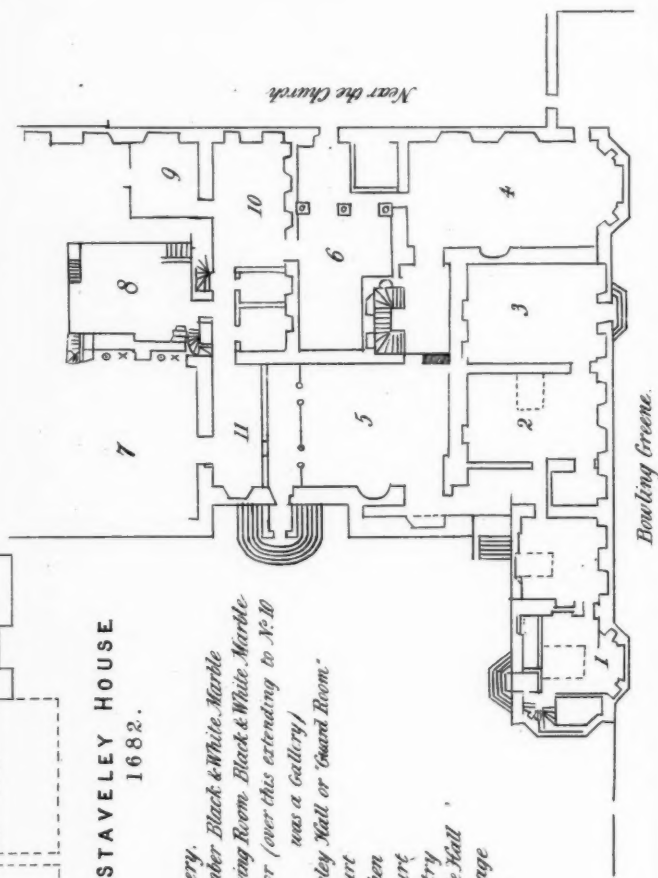
Much might be written on the management of the laundry in the middle ages, and on the processes employed in washing clothes; but enough has been said, perhaps, to show how much interest may attach to a simple little relic like the one under notice.

Derby, Dec., 1862.



STAVELEY HOUSE
1682.

1. Nursery.
2. Chamber Black & White Marble
3. Drawing Room Black & White Marble
4. Parlor (over this extending to No. 10
was a Gallery)
5. Staveley Hall or "Guard Room"
6. A Court
7. Kitchen
8. A Court
9. Pantry
10. Little Hall
11. Passage



STAVELEY HALL AND ITS OCCUPANTS.

BY W. SWIFT.

"STAVELEY, where dwelt the Freschevilles in old time—
 Their ancient hall still standing, and their names,
 Quaint effigies, and marble tombs, damp-stained;
 Adjoining yonder church, whose graceful tower
 And merry bells, have with mine inmost thought
 Association strong —"

Tour of the Don, v. ii. p. 346.

THERE is no certain information as to when or by whom the first Hall at Staveley was erected. When the Domesday survey was made, there was a church here, and also a tract of land in *demesne*, described as three plough lands—that is, as much as could be tilled by three ploughs in the course of the year—which must therefore vary in quantity according to the quality of the land. It is, however, estimated, that a plough land was equal to about one hundred and twenty acres. The *Demesne lands* at Staveley are mentioned in 1691: "the Mannour House, Foulds, Courts, &c.," are said to contain twelve acres; but the lands and farms surveyed therewith contain in the whole a much greater quantity than could ever have been in the occupation of the lord, viz.—1767 acres. The Hall stands contiguous to the church, and probably on the site of a previous mansion, for Dr. Pegge observes that "our churches generally stand south of the manor-house; the occasion of which I suppose may be, that the churches were built by the Lords of Manors, who gave that preference to the House of God, as to give it a more honourable situation than their own dwellings."

The Musards resided at Staveley, and doubtless the Frechevilles had their chief house here after their patrimonial estates of Boney and Crich were alienated; and the memorials of their transactions are so numerous, and so minute, that from them Sir Walter Scott might have drawn one of his life-like pictures of the old Baronial Hall, and reproduced the busy and exciting scenes in which its noble occupants performed their separate parts—scenes from which they have all so long disappeared. In the time of Henry III., the old Baron Ralph Musard, the fourth of his name, wearied of the world and its strife, gave lands to the Abbot and canons of Beauchief, to allow him a peaceful close of life and a humble grave with them; Robert, his son, called upon to provide horse and arms to assist in repelling the incursions of the Welsh; Ralph, the nephew of Robert, who, by his rebellious conduct forfeited his estates; then his son, a minor at his father's death, required, however, to provide two soldiers for the King's army; succeeded by his uncle Nicholas. He was the last legitimate male of his line, and appears in the twofold character of Priest and Baron; he filled the cure of this his native place, but was summoned to appear on Sunday next after the Octaves of St. John the Baptist, in 25 Edward I., well accoutred, with horses and arms, to restrain the hostilities of the Scots. His sacred calling, according to the canons of his church, strictly prohibited matrimony, but he left

sons and daughters, one of the former transmitting the name to another generation, when it expired. Then might our pageant show the Frechevilles taking active part in those stirring times, and following one another in quick succession from the manor house to the tomb.

The last Lord Musard left sisters. Amicia, the eldest, had married Anker de Frechevill, Lord of Crich, who died before her, leaving an only son, Ralph Frecheville, who inherited one-third part of the Manor of Staveley, 29 Edward III. It is not necessary to enter into genealogical details of the early members of the family, as a very particular account of them has been already compiled by Sir Frederick Madden, and is printed in the *Collectanea Topographica et Genealogica*.

The first mention of the House at Staveley that I have met with, is an ancient Inventory, taken after the decease of the first Sir Peter Frecheville, in 1559. This Sir Peter was knighted after the Battle of Musselburgh. From this Inventory we collect some curious information about the furniture of the Hall at this period—

"x fether beddes, xiii mattresses, xi bolsters, viii pelowes, vi peire of blankettes, xxiv coverlettes, iv counterpeyntes, a prass, a foldinge-table, ii cheares and a coffer, iiii trusebeddes with teasteres and hangyngs, a bedsteade, a trundelbede, a long coffer, ii cheares curtoynes and teasures, xx peyre of linnen sheets, xx peir of canvas shetts and harden, xii candil stickes, vi playne quishenes, ix wrought quishenes, a carpet of grene clothe, a table, a frame, certein cheares and stoles with all the tables cheares and stoles not before remembrede, iiii launde irens with a peire of tonges." The Plate includes "one silver salt parcell gilte, being xii ounces after iv^s the ounce, and ii playne drinking bolles, one silver cup with a cover parcell gilte, one gilted spon, vi other silver spones with knappes, xiiii playne silver spones with knappes, in all xx ounces after iv^s the ounce."

There is another Inventory, taken in 1581, which though only twenty-two years later, is considerably in advance of the previous one in regard to the particularity with which the articles are mentioned; it also gives the names of some of the rooms, as "the Great Chamber," "the Farr Chamber," "the Great Parlor," "the Hall," &c.

Peter Frecheville, upon whose death this Inventory was taken, had married, for his second wife, Margaret, daughter of Arthur Kaye, of Woodsome, and widow of Francis Woodruffe, of Wolley. She was one of the co-founders of Netherthorpe School, in 1572. Peter Frecheville,

her only son, was born March 3rd, 1574, and consequently was a mere youth at the death of his father. He was among the number of those country gentlemen who met King James the First at Worksop, on his Royal progress to take possession of the English throne, and received, along with seventeen others, the honour of knighthood, April 20th, 1603. About this time he was engaged in rebuilding his family mansion; and there still remains the stone which he placed over the principal entrance, bearing the arms of Frecheville and Kaye impaled, the crest of his family, and the inscription, PETER FRECHVIL KNIGHT. 1604.



W.S. 424.

Concerning this inscription, it seems necessary to observe, that the heraldry as to that particular time and place is erroneous: I submit, with deference, it ought to have been Frecheville alone, or, if it were intended to show the connection of Sir Peter with the family of Kaye, then the arms should have been placed quarterly and not impaled. On October 18, 1604, Sir Peter was married at Wales, a few miles distant from Staveley, to Joyce, daughter of Thomas Fleetwood, of the Vache, in Buckinghamshire, and relict of Sir Hewet Osborne, Knight. Her daughter Alice Osborne, was married at Staveley, September 21st, 1612, to Christopher Wandesford, of Kirklington, Esq. (afterwards Lord Deputy of Ireland).

Sir Peter had issue a son, who succeeded him, and was created by King Charles II. Lord Frescheville of Staveley: and two daughters, viz.—Elizabeth, born April 24, 1605, who died an infant; and Margaret, born December 10th, 1608, and married to John Ramsden, Esq., of Longley, from whom descends Sir John Ramsden, M.P. for the West Riding of Yorkshire, who is, I believe, the present representative of the Frechevilles of Staveley. Sir Peter Frecheville occupied a very important position in the local affairs of his own county. He was a man of great probity and hospitality; an upright and skilful magistrate, and a great promoter of learning. He served the office of Sheriff in 1605; and was collector of the subsidies laid upon the county of Derby. He was a highly educated gentleman; and Mr. Hunter mentions a poem written by him on the death of his niece, a daughter of the Lord Darcy. There is an interesting letter from him to Sir William Wentworth, printed in the Earl of Strafford's "Letters and Dispatches;" and there are also some of his letters in the Talbot Collection of Papers in the Heralds' College. Shortly before his death he erected the chapel and almshouses at Woodthorpe, for four poor men and four poor women, with a Deacon to read there daily Morning and Evening Prayer. He made his will March 16th, 1632, and, after a goodly custom which is now grown into disuse, the preamble runs thus:—"First I commit & bequeath my soul into the hands of Almighty God, maker of Heaven & Earth; and my Body to be interred after the manner of Christian Burial; but without any funeral pomp or solemnity, in the Quire of the Parish Church of Staveley, as near to the place where my Father and Mother were buried, as conveniently may be; stedfastly believing, & assuredly hoping in the same God that He (of His meer mercy & gracious Favour & Love towards me his unworthy servant), thro' the merits and Passion of his most dear & beloved Son our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, will vouchsafe, immediately after the end of this my natural life, to receive my soul into the Kingdom of Heaven, there to rest with him in Blessedness from thenceforth, until the coming of our said Lord & Saviour Jesus Xt. to Judgment, when I undoubtedly look and hope for the Resurrection of this my Body into the Everlasting blessedness of both Body and Soul, in the same Kingdom of Heaven, for evermore." And after disposing of his Estates, he provides for the maintenance of his Hospital at Woodthorpe; and gives to the Poor of Chesterfield, Eckington, Bolsover, Dronfield, and Barlborough, 10*l.* each: to the Poor of Whit-

tington and Clown, 3*£*. 6*s*. 8*d*. each ; and to the Poor of Staveley, 20*£*. To Four "Poor Scholars," such as after his decease should be first sent from the Grammar School at Netherthorpe to either of the Universities, 5*£*. each. To St. John's College, Cambridge, 50*£*. for the buying of Books to furnish some one of the Desks in the new Library, lately built and erected in the said College : such Books to be bought by the care and discretion of his loving friends Mr. Robert Hitch, late Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, and Mr. Robert Marshall, Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge. He gives to his son John Frecheville, "one Gold chain which was my Father's, and one Diamond Ring, which was the Lady Frecheville's my Grandmother's." He died April 7th, 1634. His first Lady died March 11th, 1613. His second Lady and relict was Isabel, daughter of Horey Neville, of Grove, and widow of Richard Harpur, of Swarkston.

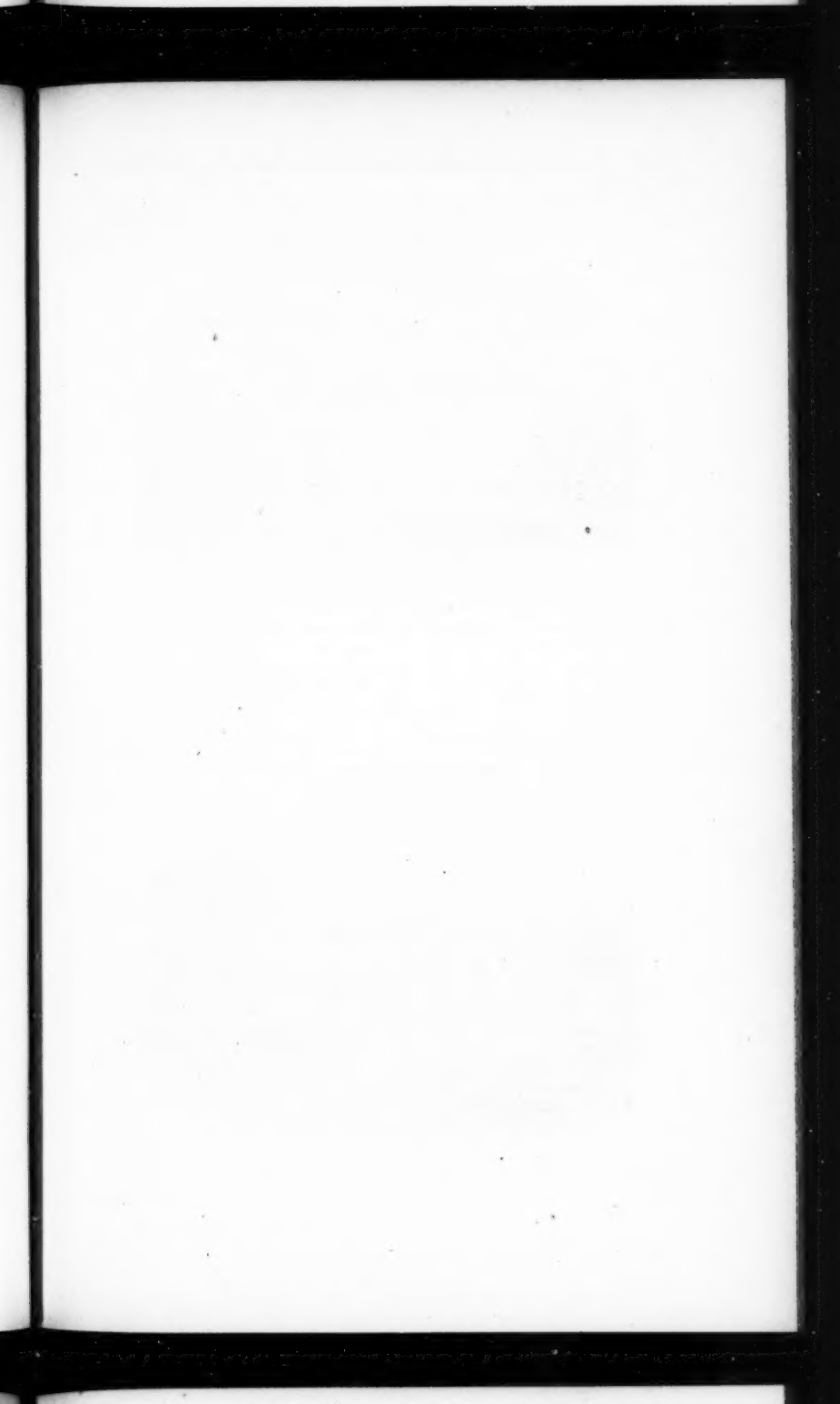
John Frecheville, his only son and successor, was born at Staveley, December 4th, 1606. He married early in life ; and it is remarkable, that his first marriage, in some accounts of his family (the Baronage for instance), is not mentioned. His wife was Bruce, daughter of Francis Nicholls, of Amptill, in Bedfordshire, and of the Middle Temple ; she died April 10th, 1629, in her 18th year. He married secondly, April 26th, 1630, Sarah, daughter and heiress of Sir John Harrington, Knight, and Maid of Honour to Queen Henrietta, and had issue three daughters —

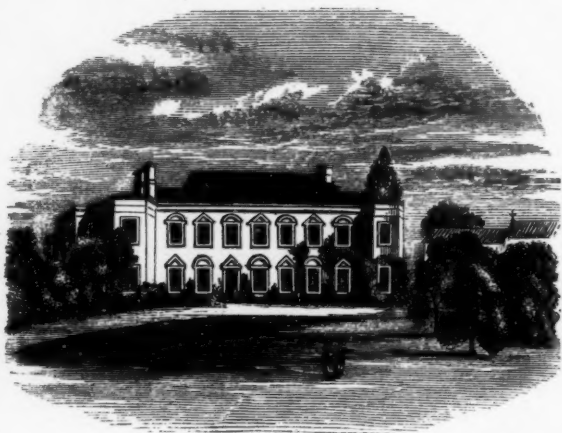
1. CHRISTIANE, born at Hazelbarrow, December 13th, 1633, married February 28th, 1651, to Charles Lord St. John (afterwards Duke of Bolton). She died in child-bed, July 22nd, 1653, leaving a son who survived her about seven days only.
2. ELIZABETH, born January 1st, 1634-5, and married September 18th, 1661, by His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury (Dr. Juxon), in the Chapel at Lambeth, to Philip Warwick (son and heir to Sir Philip Warwick, Knight). He died March 13th, 1683, and she married secondly, January 8, 1684-5, Conyers Earl of Holderness, and died without issue, February 22nd, 1689-90.
3. FRANCES, born at the Hagg, November 1st, 1638, married to Colonel Thomas Colepeper, of St. Stephens, near Canterbury. She died without issue, December 3rd, 1698.

This last was a stolen match, and so obnoxious to her father, that while he appears to have made liberal settlements on the marriages of his other daughters, he left Mrs. Colepeper only an annuity. Lady Frecheville, their mother, died in London, June 22nd, 1665 or 1666, and was buried in the Church of St. Laurence Pountney. His Lordship married thirdly, Anne Charlotte, only daughter of Sir Henry de Vick, Knight and Bart., Chancellor of the Order of the Garter. She also was connected with the Court, being a Lady of Honour to Queen Anne both before and after she ascended the throne.

Lord Frescheville was a most zealous Royalist, and during the troubled times of 1643 and 1644, Staveley Hall was garrisoned.* In 1639 he was made Gentleman of the Privy Chamber, and received a

* The large hinges which were used for iron shutters to the windows, remain on some of them in the West front at this day. The writer is in possession of a small cannon ball, picked out of an old wall within range of the hall. It weighs rather more than 6oz.





WEST FRONT AS IT WAS IN 1816.



EAST FRONT, 1889.

Jlewellynn Jewitt, F.S.A., del & sc.

STAVELEY HALL, DERBYSHIRE.

commission as "Colonell General of Derbyshire," August 29, 1644. He distinguished himself on various occasions, particularly in a skirmish with Capt. Revell's, Capt. Ashenhurst's, and Capt. Lingart's troops, which he drove for shelter into Mr. Eyre's house at Hassop, and having procured some reinforcements, took them all prisoners and brought them to his house at Staveley.

The taking of Wingfield Manor is matter of public history. It was in possession of the Royal party when Sir John Gell attacked it. The King sent General Hastings to its relief, but he was beaten; after which Major-General Crawford arrived with reinforcements, and it surrendered after a bombardment of three hours. On the way, Crawford called at Bolsover, and having been successful there, he proceeded to Staveley, and August 12th, 1644, he summoned "Collonel *Fretchwell's* house," and obtained its surrender without blows; he found eleven iron guns, three hundred small arms, and a considerable quantity of powder; these he carried off, and ordered that the Colonel should slight his works which were very strong.—*Rushworth* v. ii. pt. 3, p. 644.

John Vickers, a writer on the Parliamentary side says, "Immediately after this (the surrender of Bolsover Castle), they all marched to *Staley House*, which was strongly fortified; but upon our armies advance to it, it was soon surrendered upon articles of agreement; and in it we had *twelve* pieces of ordnance, *two hundred and thirty muskets*, and *a hundred and fifty pikes*; and Mr. John *Fretchwell* (who had long held the house fortified with strong works for the service of the King), being then convinced of the goodness of our cause, did very freely, and voluntarily, render to the Major-General all the arms aforesaid, with much other ammunition."—*Parliamentary Chronicle*, p. 337. If reliance may be placed on the following authority, Staveley has been honoured with the presence of Royalty. In *Whitelock's Memorials* occurs this curious notice, under 1645, August 20. "The King, with 5000 Horse and Dragoons, was at the Lord *Fretswell's* House, and the Parliamentary forces not far from him;" and Colepeper, referring to this, adds—"this was the Castle of Staveley in Derbyshire."

Mrs. Hutchinson, in the "Memoirs of her husband, Colonel Hutchinson," mentions a very narrow escape of Frecheville—Colonel Hutchinson's men "encountering a party, where Col. *Freckeville* and Sir Henry *Humlack* were in person, fought them, killed many of their men, and tooke *Freckeville* prisoner; but his Captaine *Liefertenant Jammot* came to his rescue, and freed him; though himself was taken in his stead, and brought to Nottingham."

The preamble of the patent for creating Frecheville a peer, refers to the loyalty "expressed unto us, through the whole course of this barbarous and unnatural rebellion; who repayed unto us in our weakest condition, with considerable forces rayssed and brought in, at the erection of our royal standard at *Nottingham*, with which he hath since performed many eminent services against the rebels, as well in the first happy defeats given to the best of their cavalrye in the fight neere *Worcester*, as at *Kinton*, *Braynford*, *Marleborough*, *Newbery*, and

many other places, *where he hath received several wounds.*" But this patent never passed the Great Seal. However, on March 16th, 1664, a patent did pass, creating him Lord Frescheville of Staveley; limiting the title to him and the heirs male of his body. On June 24th, 1676, he made his will; but it contains nothing interesting to the present purpose. In October, 1681, he sold the Manor of Staveley, and his other lands appurtenant thereto, to the Earl of Devonshire. His fortune was then reduced; indeed so early as 1655, on the Parliament making an ordinance for the decimation of the cavaliers, he was assessed 575£. The sequestration laid upon him was heavy, but "was something mitigated by friendship, by some of the adverse party." It would be interesting to know the year when the letter was written from which the following extract is made. It is under the date of Febr. 15, in reply to one from Colepeper, applying for aid to enable him to prosecute a Law-suit:—

"I will procure some money, though I was never more fiesed then now; for my owne businesse hath hitherto absolutely failed, and I have with the greatest difficulty imaginable, been forced to borrow 500£ to pay a Debt of honor as well as Justice this last Candlemas day."

In his latest years Lord Frescheville suffered much from strangury, which rendered him unable to take riding exercise. He died within the suburbs of Westminster, at 4 o'clock in the morning of Friday, March 31st, 1682. Colepeper denied the genuineness of Lord Frescheville's will, stating that the Bishop of Rochester (Dr. Dolben) was with Lord Frescheville the day but one before he died, and inquired of his Lordship if he had settled his affairs? to which he replied in the negative: but Lady Frescheville, who was present at the interview, said he had made his will. His remains were brought down by Colepeper, and interred at Staveley, on Sunday, April 9th, 1682. Lady Frescheville long survived, dying November 10th, 1717, and was interred in St. George's Chapel, Windsor.

I have heard that there is, or was formerly, a Portrait of Sir Peter Frecheville at Bolsover. Colepeper enumerates in one place ten family pictures, among which were "Lord Frechevill," "Sister Warwick," and "Boser Castle." The likenesses are named again by him with a value of 10£. upon the first, and 17£. upon the second. In another of his manuscripts there is an Inventory of Jewellery, &c., in which occurs "Lord and Lady Frescheville's and Lady St. John's Pictures set in gold; Lord Conyer's Picture, Lady Bedford's Picture, the Earl of Essex, my Lord Frescheville's seal, and a Gold Box, with his Ring." On the dispersion of the Collection of Pictures, &c., of the late Lord Northwick, at Thirlstane House, Cheltenham, there was sold a "Portrait of John Frescheville, of Staveley, Derbyshire, created Lord Frescheville," by J. Hoskins, the celebrated miniature painter. It was purchased on commission, and I believe is now the property of Sir John Ramsden. It was painted previous to 1664, for in the month of February in that year the artist died.

There is in the British Museum, bound up with Colepeper's MSS., a very rude tricking of the South front of Staveley Hall, as it existed in 1684; which shows it to have been castellated on that side. There

are also bound up with these papers, plans of the ground story. One of these is given in Plate XVII. on a reduced scale.

Colepeper, though of very good descent by birth (as son of Sir Thomas Colepeper by Lady Barbara, daughter of Robert Sydney, Earl of Leicester, and widow of Thomas, first Viscount Strangford), and, moreover, a man both of genius and erudition, was, in some respects, very nearly a madman. He used every means in his power to set aside the sale of the Staveley Estate, and not content with this, he rudely insulted the Earl of Devonshire within the verge of the Court. *Evelyn* was an eyewitness, and writes under the date of July 9th, 1685, "Just as I was coming into the lodgings at Whitehall, a little before dinner, my lord of Devonshire standing very neere his Matys bedchamber doore in the lobby, came Col. Culpeper, and in a rude manner looking my Lord in the face, asked whether this was a time and place for excluders to appeare? my Lord at first tooke little notice of what he said, knowing him to be a hot-headed fellow, but he reiterating it, my Lord ask'd Culpeper whether he meant him; he said yes, he meant his Lordship. My Lord told him he was no excluder (as indeed he was not); the other affirming it againe, my lord told him he lied, on which Culpeper struck him a box on the eare, which my Lord return'd and fell'd him. They were soone parted, Culpeper was seiz'd and his maty, who was all the while in his bed chamber, order'd him to be carried to the Green Cloth officer, who sent him to the Marshalsea as he deserv'd. My Lord Devon had nothing said to him." *Evelyn's Diary*, by Lord Braybrooke, v. i. p. 602. In the Frescheville Letters, in the British Museum, there is the Draft of a touching appeal, which Mrs. Colepeper addressed to the Lord Danby on her husband's behalf—"My Lord," says she, "It is not the least of my afflictions, that I am forced to trouble yr Lo^{sp}. I most humbly beg of yr Lo^{sp}. to writt a provision for me to the King, to let his maty. know that if he keepes my husband in prison we must both starf. I thought my father had merited more then to make me starf for a rash accion of my husband. To day they frighted me extremly in sending for Mr. Co. to Westminster Hall but I do not here they sayd anything to him, but they tell me now the Kings pleasure is declared that his hand is spared, w^{ch} yr Lo^{sp} told me afore, and it is an obligation I owe to your Lo^{sp}. and to nobody else, God Almighty bless you for it, you shall have my prayers as long as I live. I have had many aduisers to perswad Mr. Co. to appliue himselfe as they call it to Deu. I think that as been done enough. I will never advise it nor meddell in it, my uiolence shall not prejudice him, nor will I aduise a thing I scorn in my hart. Pardon I beseech yr Lo^{sp}. this tedious letter." *Collins* attributes the Royal clemency in sparing the Colonel's hand to the intervention of the Earl of Devonshire; "the Earl," says he, "contented himself, and only worked out the satisfaction of giving him pardon upon condition he should never more appear in Whitehall; but immediately after the defeat of the Duke of Monmouth, the Colonel was encouraged to show himself at Court, and was rising into a creature of it. The Earl of Devonshire meeting him in the King's Presence Chamber, and receiving from him, as he thought, an insulting look, he took him

by the nose, led him out of the room, and gave him some despising blow with the head of his cane. For this bold act, the Earl was prosecuted in the King's Bench upon an Information, and had an exorbitant Fine of 30,000*£*. imposed upon him, and was committed, though a Peer, to the King's Bench Prison, until he should make payment of it." In the "Autobiography of Sir John Bramston," p. 275 (Camden), there is an allusion made to this assault, in which the circumstances are stated a little differently—"The Earl of Devonshire meeting Colepeper in the Vane Chamber at Whitehall [in the same or the next room to that which was the scene of the former assault], and having a small cane in his hand, thrust him in the breast, that the cane broke; whereupon the Earl was committed to the Earl of Craven at present, and the next day forty thousand pounds bayle for his appearance to answer to an information in the King's Bench. His bayle were the Duke of Somerset, the Lord Delamer, Mr. Wharton, and another." The Earl gave his Bond to pay the full fine, but it was found among the Papers of King James, and given up by King William III.

After the death of Lord Frescheville, Staveley Hall was occupied by Mr. Bullock, the Steward, until his death in 1699. It is a curious illustration of the state of the "family feeling," that Lady Frescheville being on a visit in Derbyshire in 1697, with her maids, they were desirous to see the house and called, but were refused admittance!

In 1700 it was rented by Mr. Dennis Hayford, the lessee of the Staveley iron works; but about 1710, it was occupied by its owner, Lord James Cavendish, when it went by the name of "Staley Park," and suffered some changes in regard to its internal arrangements. He married Anne, daughter of Elihu Yale, Esq., Governor of Fort St. George, E.I., by whom he had issue William, born October 22nd, 1711; and Elizabeth, baptized November 5th, 1712. They both married into the family of Dr. Chandler, Bishop of Durham. The former married Barbara, the Bishop's daughter, but died without issue, June 30, 1751, and she then married General the Hon. John Fitzwilliam, M.P. for Windsor, and died in 1786. Miss Cavendish married Richard Chandler, Esq., son and heir to the Bishop, who on his marriage assumed, by Act of Parliament, the name of Cavendish only. On his death, November 22nd, 1769, the Hall and Estate came to the Duke of Devonshire.

Among the Pictures of W. H. Greaves Bagshawe, Esq., of Ford Hall, there is a Portrait in crayons of Lord James Cavendish; and also a large painting representing the treaty for his marriage with Miss Yale, in which appear prominent the features of Governor Yale, Lord James, and his brother (indicated by their striking likeness to each other). Lord James died December 14th, 1751, and a few years subsequently there seems to have been a disposition on the part of the owners to demolish the Hall—which indeed was commenced to be done—for in the accounts of the Steward for 1756, occur these items—

	£ s. d.
"Pd for slate and leading to repair the buildings before I knew that the	
Hall was to be pulled down	0 13 6

	£	s.	d.
Pd. for advertising the sale of goods & materials of Staley House ...	0	2	6
Pd. expenses to Bawtry to sell the lead or to expedite the shipping of it to London if it could not be sold"	0	5	0

A friendly hand saved it ; and where it had been partly rased on the east side, it was fronted anew, as shown in a view to be met with in one of the older volumes of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, and it became the residence of Lieut.-General James Gisborne ; and afterwards as two tenements, by the husbands of two of his sisters, whose names were revered, and their worth universally felt and acknowledged by the last generation of all classes in Staveley, viz.—Samuel Foxlowe, Esq., and the Rev. Fletcher Dixon, LL.D. The Rev. Francis Foxlove subsequently occupied the whole up to his death, December 13th, 1841. My friend Mr. Holland, who visited it about the time when the sketch was taken which is copied on Plate XVIII. thus describes its interior —

“ Wainfscotted high with polish'd oak,
Pilasters tall, arranged between,
Adorn the rooms through which I walk,
And grace the faded antique scene.
For o'er those fluted shafts sublime—
O'er the Corinthian foliage fair—
Hath swept the filent wing of time,
Yet left no mouldering traces there.
Where now I sit—in prouder state
Surrounded by his numerous trains,
In days gone by the Freschville fate,
The Lord of Staveley's rich domains.”

In 1843, the hand of the spoiler again fell upon the Hall, and a further portion was demolished ; at the same time those two remarkable turrets were added to the gables, which, as shown in the view, give it such an entirely altered appearance as compared with its original character. It has been for some time untenanted, but arrangements are pending for exchanging it for the quaint old Rectory House, when it will become the future residence of the Rectors of Staveley.

Mr. Wolley and Sir Frederick Madden have both referred to a Bible formerly belonging to Lord Freschville, containing entries in his Lordship's hand, and valuable as evidence of family genealogy. On the 12th instant, the library of the late John Staniforth, Esq., of Westbourne, near Sheffield, was put up for sale, on which occasion the identical Bible was offered for competition, but is understood to have been bought in. Looking at the history of the original owner of this fine Old English copy of the Scriptures, and the contemplated fate of Staveley Hall, I could not resist the wish that the book could have found its future and permanent depository under the roof, where it may be presumed the curious autograph records to be found in it were inscribed more than two centuries since.

.. The variations in the spelling of the name are in accordance with the writing of the time. The oldest autograph I have met with of any member of this family, is a

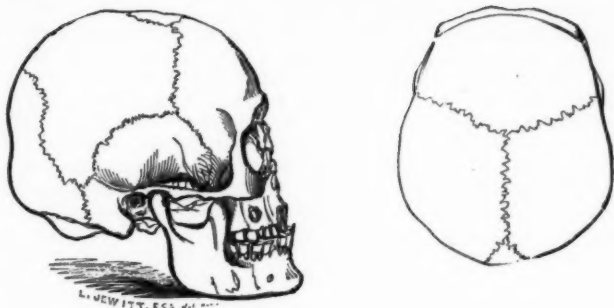
signature to a deed, 7 Hen. VIII., in the possession of the late Thomas Bateman, Esq. It is, however, written Frechewell in the body of the instrument. Of Lord Fresche-

ville's autograph, No. 2 is a *fac-simile* taken from a deed of 1649. The *s* seems to have been added after he became a peer. There are letters in the British Museum, written by members of the family between 1660 and 1690, some without the *s*, but more with it, and a few instances of his Lordship's signature thus, "Frescheville."

November, 1862.

HADDON.

Pleasant to see is an English Hall
 Of the olden time on a summer's day,
 Turret and tower, and buttress and wall
 Shining and shadowed in green and grey.
 Strange, to think of those times of old,
 And of those who lived there, only a tale,
 Doubtingly, dimly, guessed and told,
 Of châtelaines fair and of knights in mail,
 Though the place remains where they lived and died,
 Seen, as they saw it, by you and me,
 The scenes of their lives, of their griefs and their pride,
 Telling its tale unmistakeably.
 The light still shines through the latticed pane
 As it shone to them, and the shadowed door
 Is the shadow they saw, and the stains remain
 Of the wine they spilled on the dais floor.
 The river that runs by the Old Hall's walls
 Murmured to them as it murmurs now;
 The golden glow of the sunset falls
 As it fell for them, on glade river and bough.
 The hall where they feasted, the church where they prayed,
 Their cradles, and chambers, and gravestones, stay,
 While lord and vassal, youth and maid,
 Knight and lady, have passed away.

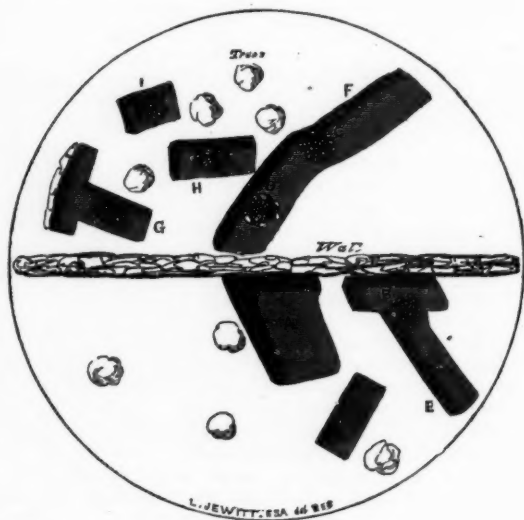


NOTICE OF THE OPENING OF SOME CELTIC GRAVE-
MOUNDS, IN THE HIGH PEAK, BY JOHN F. LUCAS,
AND LLEWELLYNN JEWITT.

SOME Barrows having recently been opened by us in the High Peak of Derbyshire, we have thought that a detailed notice of their contents would be not only interesting to the readers of the "RELIQUARY," but valuable to archæologists generally. We therefore proceed to put on record the result of our examination of these interesting remains of antiquity. It is well at all times to preserve records of discoveries, and of examinations, whether the results be of greater or lesser importance; and therefore, although some of the barrows now under notice yielded but little new matter, the description even of that little may become valuable for purposes of reference and comparison.

Harley Hill.—On the 4th of November, 1862, we commenced cutting a trench into a large mound on the summit of a hill called HARLEY, between the Buxton and Macclesfield roads, near Glutton Dale and the village of Earl Sterndale. The mound is about twenty-eight yards in diameter, and of several feet elevation in its centre; it is planted with trees, and has a lee wall intersecting it from east to west. The view from this mound is one of the finest which can well be imagined, and embraces a large extent of the wild and beautiful scenery of the Peak. Commencing to the right, the range of hills which form the principal points in this glorious panoramic picture are, "*Harley Cob*;" "*Upper Edge*," of which we shall have a few words to say presently; "*Pike Tor*;" "*Croome*," a magnificent range of hills, or what may perhaps from their sharp outline be called cliffs; the Staffordshire hills stretching far away into the blue distance; "*Glutton Hill*;" "*Park House Hill*," or cliff, rising up sharp and rugged, and having an opening on its top known as the "*Devil's Gap*;" "*Longnor Edge*," just shutting out from view the church and town of Longnor in Staffordshire; "*Salm*," almost a table-land above the dale; "*Hitter Hill*;" "*Ordoss Cliff*;" "*High*

Wheeldon," whose form so closely resembles that of an Egyptian pyramid, as almost to lead the observer to fancy in its regular and strongly defined outlines, he sees a veritable pyramid before him; "*Crosscott* (*Crowdicote*) *Bank*;" in front of which Earl Sterndale, with its church, its schoolhouse, and its pleasant homesteads, lies in a wooded hollow; "*Jericho*;" and "*Standon Moor*," which closes in the picture with the point at which we started, and leaves the eye to rest again on *Harley*, at a point elevated many feet above where the barrow is situated. It is foreign to our purpose just now to describe the scenery of this glorious neighbourhood—scenery to which no pen can do adequate justice; and we will therefore proceed at once to speak of the result of the examination we made of the mound to which we have alluded.



The accompanying plan will show the form of the barrow, and the excavations we made. Our first operation was to cut an opening, commencing about midway between the outer edge of the barrow and the wall in the centre, as shown at A. This cutting we carried to the depth, in the centre, of rather more than seven feet, when we came upon the natural surface of the ground. The whole mound we found composed of fine earth, in which scarcely a particle of stone could be discovered; indeed, so few fragments of stone were found, that it seemed as though special care had been taken to exclude them. Mounds of this kind are very unusual in Derbyshire, only two others having as yet been opened. These are a large barrow at *Basset Wood*,

near Tissington, opened by Mr. Bateman in 1845, and another at Gossey Close, in the same neighbourhood, also opened by him in the same year, and which, like this, may possibly be Roman.

The soil was extremely close and compact, and but for the mixture of different earths, the layers of burnt earth and the charcoal, it might well have been considered to have been a natural formation. At a depth of about forty inches from the surface in the excavation A, was a thick layer of burnt soil and charcoal; and other layers of more or less extent were found in every part of the mound. At the depth of six feet was an extremely thick layer of burnt soil, which was of a bright red and hardened like pottery. The fires on this central part must have been extensive and of long continuance, as the soil beneath was burnt for several inches in depth. Passing through this layer, we dug down to a considerable depth, without however finding any central interment.

Our second excavation was made at the point marked E on the plan, from whence we run a trench up to the wall, and then made side cuttings in form of an italic T. Here, at the point marked B on the plan, we discovered a most interesting interment, at a depth of about eighteen inches from the surface. The deposit consisted of a small heap of burnt bones and charcoal, placed in a hollow scooped out in the earth, and surrounded by a few small stones. On the top of the heap of ashes was found a large bead of deep blue glass, which is shown in the accompanying engraving. A flake of flint was also found with the ashes. The body had probably, like others in the same mound, been burnt on the centre of the barrow, and then the ashes placed in the small hollow scooped out for their reception at the side. A thin layer of earth had then been spread over the heap, and a fire lit on its top so as to harden the surface. The bones in this interment were totally destroyed, the only fragments being the thin hollow enamel coating of the teeth, which remained perfect. In the same opening were remains of other interments, and several layers of burnt earth, with fragments of charcoal.

On the following day we continued our investigations, this time commencing by cutting a trench on the opposite side of the wall, from nearly the outer edge of the barrow to its centre. This opening is marked F on the plan. In this opening, like that at A, we came across several distinct layers of burnt earth, and at C and D were rewarded by again finding interments, similar to that described as existing at E. At C was a heap of human ashes in baked earth, at a depth of four feet six inches from the surface, and along with it were some flakes of flint. At D, at the depth of nearly seven feet from the surface, the mass of human ashes and charcoal lay on the old surface-stones, and were surrounded by a few burnt stones of small size. Another opening was then made near F, and resulted in the same appearances of burnt earth, and of interments by cremation.

On the 14th we renewed our operations. This time making open-

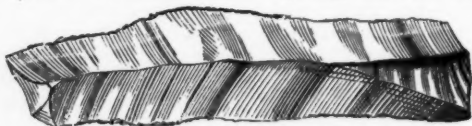


ings at G H and I, in each of which, at a depth of from three feet to three feet six inches, we came upon the layer of burnt earth, and of interments of the same character as those before described.

Upper Edge.—On the 6th of November, we determined to suspend the operation at Harley for a time, and to make an opening into a barrow on a hill called **UPPER EDGE**, in the same neighbourhood, already examined by Mr. Bateman on the 28th of June, 1850. Of this barrow Mr. Bateman says—

“On the 28th of June, we opened a barrow on the ‘Upper Edge,’ near Sterndale, the top of which was of stone, and the lower part entirely of earth. About the centre were many pieces of charcoal, extending from a little below the turf, to the natural surface, a depth of about three feet. Amongst the charcoal were numerous pieces of calcined bone, and a few bits of flint; and from the appearance of the earth in the vicinity of the charcoal, it was judged that the process of combustion had taken place upon the spot.

In this barrow we made a small opening, and were rewarded by



finding a remarkably good flint knife, figured in the accompanying engraving.

Hollinsclough.—On the 17th of November, we proceeded to open a low mound on the Staffordshire side of the river Dove, on a heathy enclosure at the top of a steep hill, known by the not very eupho-



nious name of "Bitch-hole," above the quiet and unpretending little village of HOLLINSCLOUGH. The mound is about thirty-six feet across, and raised about three feet above the surface of the hill. It was sunk in the centre, and thickly covered with heath and bilberry-wires. The accompanying plan will show the extent of our operations. Our first opening was a trench running nearly east and west, and widened in the centre of the barrow. At A we were fortunate in discovering, at a depth of three feet, an interment of partially burnt bones, with fragments of charcoal, and half of a very fine spear-head of burnt flint, and some other flakes of flint. The remains were those of an adult, but were very fragmentary, one side of the lower jaw, with the teeth, and some of the vertebrae, being the most perfect. In other parts of this opening, appearances of burnt stones and layers of burnt earth were observed. The heap of ashes and bones lay in a hollow in the natural surface of the hill, and were surrounded and covered with small stones.

Our next opening was made as shown at F. At B was a similar interment, with much charcoal mixed with the ashes. A remarkably good burnt flint, thick, and sharpened at the rounded end, as if for chipping with, was found, as were also some other fragments of calcined

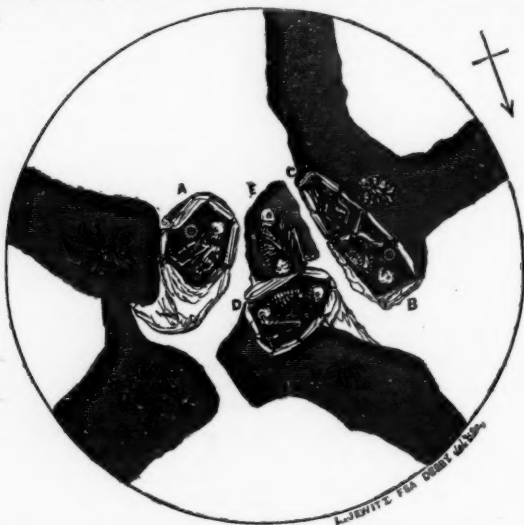


flint. The deposit was that of a young person, and was placed on the old ground, two feet six inches below the present surface. At D was a layer of charcoal, and above it the very nice little arrow-head shown in the accompanying engraving. Another opening was then made at C to the depth of about two feet six inches, when the same bed of charcoal, mixed with white sand, was come to, and there were also, here, traces of human ashes and burnt stone.

It is worthy of remark, that some of the fragments of charcoal found in this barrow were of large size, and were evidently formed from wood some inches in diameter, and not from twigs as is usually the case.

Hitter Hill.—On the 19th of November, we commenced operations on a rough uneven mound, on the summit of a steep hill of considerable altitude, called HITTER HILL, at Earl Sterndale. This hill, which occupies the tract of land between the village of Earl Sterndale, Glutton Dale, and the road to Longnor, rises abruptly from opposite Glutton House, and on the side next the roadway, to a great height, and from its summit commands one of the finest and most extensive views in the neighbourhood—embracing mountain ranges of every variety of form, stretching themselves out on every side, until their outlines are lost in the extreme distance. From the village the ascent is more easy, and it is not until the point on which the barrow is raised, is attained, that the magnificence of the surrounding landscape can be appreciated. The mound was about twenty-two feet in diameter, composed of rough stone and soil, slightly sunk in its centre, and although of a somewhat unpromising exterior, turned out to be one of the best and richest, in interments, which has been opened in the Peak district.

The first opening was made at the part marked A on the accompanying ground-plan, where we cut a trench, four feet in width, in



a north-easterly direction, towards the centre of the barrow, and soon came upon an interment of burnt and unburnt human bones, too fragmentary, however, to enable us to describe their original position. Along with these were an immense quantity of rats' bones* and snail

* It will be noticed in this account, that frequent mention is made of "rats' bones." These, it must be understood, are the bones, not of the common rat, but of the water-vole or water-rat. They are very abundant in Derbyshire barrows, and indeed, are so frequently found in them, that their presence in a mound is considered to be a certain indication of the presence of human remains. I am favoured by my friend, Dr. J. Barnard Davis, the author of *Crania Britannica*, with the following remarks on this curious characteristic of the barrows of the Peak district:—He says, "The barrows of Derbyshire, a hilly, almost mountainous country, abounding with beautiful brooks and rills, inhabited by the Water-Vole, were made use of for its *hybernacula*, or winter retreats, into which it stored its provisions, and where it passed its time during the cold and frosty season. It is a Rodent or gnawer, or vegetable eater, and, as I have described elsewhere, has a set of grinding-teeth of the utmost beauty, and fitted most admirably for the food on which it lives. The part of the matter which is curious to the antiquary is, that the bones in Derbyshire barrows are frequently perceived to have been gnawed by the scalpri-form incisors of these animals. I have endeavoured to explain in the note referred to, that all the Rodents amuse themselves, or possibly preserve their teeth in a naturally useful state, and themselves in health, by gnawing any object that comes in their way. This is well known to every boy who keeps rabbits. I remember some years ago, seeing a very fine black Squirrel in the house of a workman in this town, which had been sent him by his son from Canada. It was found that it was impossible to keep this animal in any wooden house. He would gnaw a rod out of the strongest wooden cage that could be made for him, in a few hours. In consequence, his owner had made him a tin cage, in which he was kept securely. In confirmation of what I have said respecting the Water-Voles, vegetable feeders, gnawing the bones of the ancient Britons in barrows, I may refer to Linnæus's

shells. After proceeding to a distance of seven feet, we came upon the side, or what may almost be called the entrance, of a cist formed partly of the natural rock, and partly of stones set up edgewise. The dimensions of this cist were about forty inches by twenty-six inches, and it was two feet in depth, the floor being three feet six inches below the surface. The cist was formed between two portions of natural rock, and protected at its entrance by a large flat stone set up edgewise, and other stones filled up the interstices at the sides. It was also covered with a large flat stone. On clearing away the surrounding earth, after removing the covering stone, we were rewarded by finding that the cist contained the remains of a young person, which had lain on its left side, in the usual position with the knees drawn up. The bones were however very fragmentary. The accompanying engraving will



show the opened cist, with the stone across its entrance, and the interment *in situ*. In front of the skeleton, and close to its hands, we found a remarkably good and perfect food vessel, which is shown in the annexed engraving.



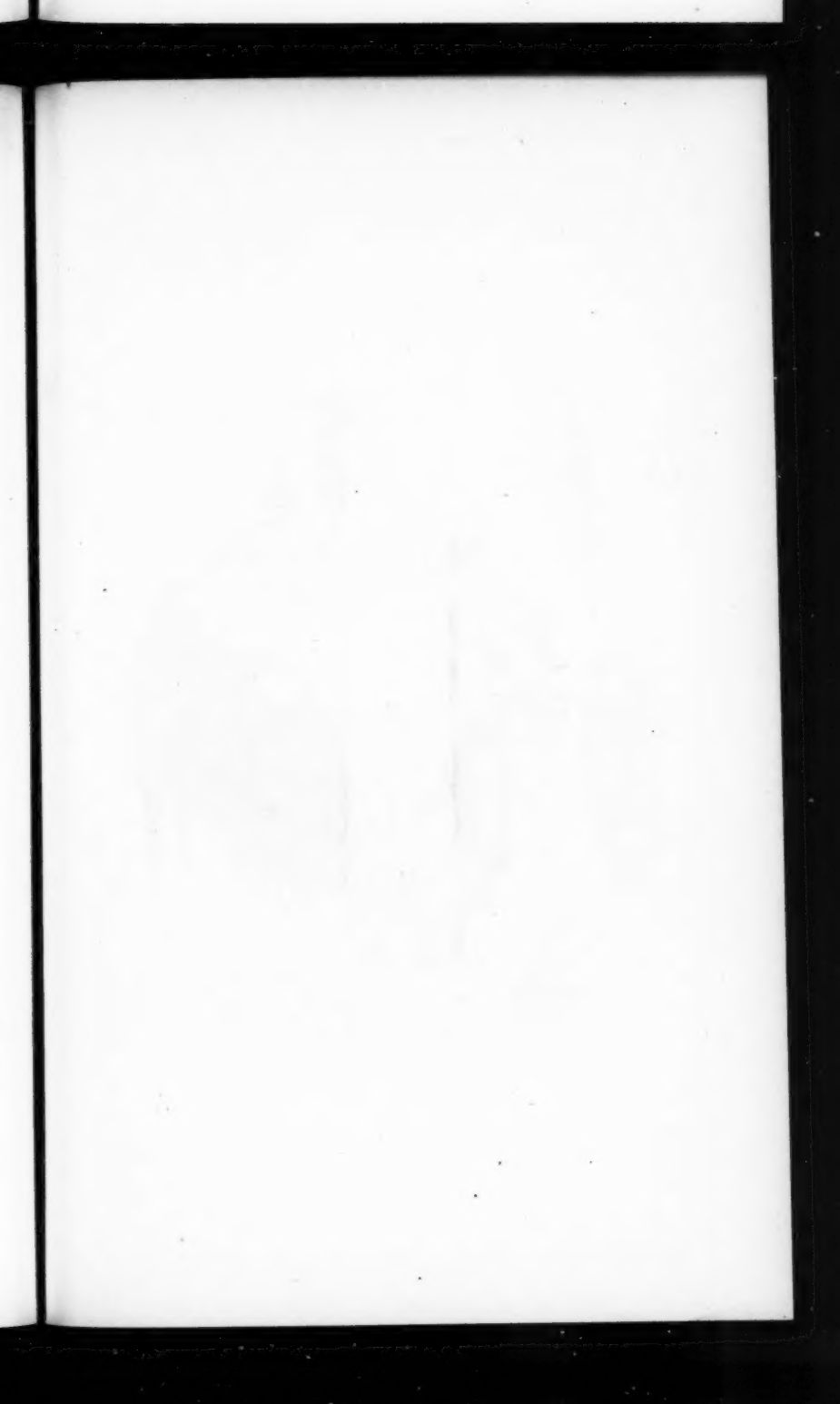
most interesting *Tour in Lapland*. When in Lycksele, Lapland, June 1, he describes the *Kodda*, or hut of the Laplander, and incidentally remarks, 'Everywhere around the huts I observed horns of the reindeer lying neglected, and it is remarkable that they were gnawed, and sometimes half-devoured by Squirrels.'—I. 127. That is, if

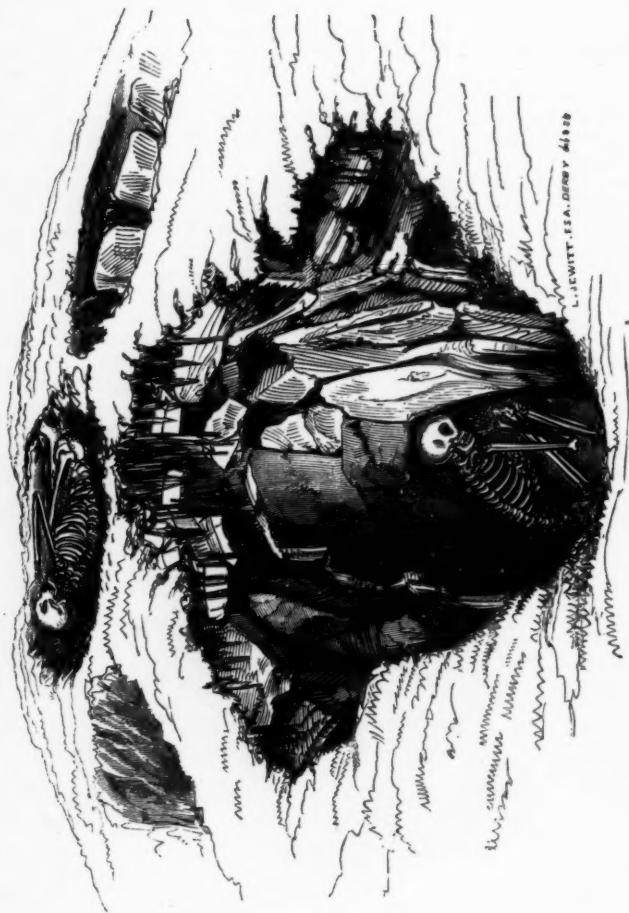
The urn, which is four and three quarter inches in height, and five and a half inches in diameter at the top, is richly ornamented with the usual diagonal and herring-bone lines, formed by twisted thongs impressed into the soft clay, in its upper part. Around the body of the urn itself, however, is a pattern of lozenge form, very unusual on vessels of this period. This urn we succeeded in getting out entire, but owing to its having, when first buried, slipped a little from its original position on the rock, it was somewhat decayed and injured on one side.

The next morning, Nov. 20, a trench four feet wide was cut on the west side towards the centre, as shown at B on the plan, and the day's labours had an equally satisfactory result. At about the same distance as on the previous day, we came to the side of a cist, immediately in front of which, at F on the plan, lay a heap of burnt bones, and a few flakes of burnt flint. Having cleared away the surrounding stones and earth, and removed the large flat covering stones, which showed above the surface of the mound, we found the cist to be composed on one side by the natural rock, and on the others by flat stones set up on edge. Its dimensions were about one foot ten inches by four feet, and it contained a large quantity of rats' bones and snail shells. In this cist was an interment of an adult, much crushed by one of the large covering stones having fallen upon it. Thanks to this circumstance, however, the urn, which I shall describe presently, owed its preservation. The body lay in the usual contracted position, on its left side, as shown on the ground-plan at B, and in front and close to the hands, was a food vessel, which, like the other, was taken out entire. Of this beautiful urn the accompanying engraving gives an accurate representation. It is five and a quarter inches in height, and



any thing were truly devoured, it was the antlers, not the bodies. "The bones of the *Arvicola*, or Water-vole, were found in the exploration of the colossal tumulus of Fontenay de Marmion, which was one of the galleried tumuli, opened in 1829, near Caen, in Normandy. It belonged to the primeval period of the ancient Gauls.—*Mem. de la Soc. des Antiq. de Normandie*, 1831-3, p. 282."





STONE CIST AND INTERMENTS. HITTER HILL BARROW, DERBYSHIRE.

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six and a quarter inches in diameter at the top. It is, as will be seen, very richly ornamented with the characteristic patterns found on the Celtic urns of this district. It is, undoubtedly, one of the finest and most elaborately ornamented which has yet been exhumed.

Continuing the excavations to the south, we found that another cist C adjoined the one just described, and was, like it, formed of flat stones set up edgewise; in fact, it was like one long cist divided across the middle. In this second cist, besides the usual accompaniment of rats' bones, was the remains of an interment, sufficiently *in situ* to show that the skeleton had, like the others, been deposited in a contracted position. A small fragment of pottery was also found, but owing to the cist being so near the surface, the stones had been partially crushed in, and thus both the deposit and the urn had become destroyed. A portion of a stone hammer was also found.



The two cists are shown in the accompanying vignette, which also shows the central interment at a higher level, to be hereafter described.

On Monday, the 24th of November, we resumed our operations, this time making an opening on the north-west side, as shown at D on the plan. Here again, at a few feet from the outer edge, we came upon an interment H, without a cist, accompanied by an unusual quantity of rats' bones. Continuing the excavation, we were again rewarded by the discovery of a fine cist, but at a greater depth than those before described.

Above this cist we found some large bones of the ox, and on the covering stone was a deposit of burnt bones and ashes, with innumerable quantities of rats' bones.

The Cist, which was covered with one extremely large flat stone, we found to be formed partly of the natural rock, and partly—like the others—of flat stones set up edgewise; and it was, without exception, the most compact and neatly formed of any which have come under our observation. Its form will be seen on the plan at D, and its appearance when the interior soil was removed, is shown on Plate XX. The dimensions of the cist were as follows:—Width at the foot twenty-four inches, extreme length forty inches, general depth twenty inches. The floor was composed of the natural surface of the rock, with some small flat stones laid to make it level, and at the narrow end a raised

edge of stone, rudely hollowed in the centre, formed a pillow on which the head rested. The sides of the cist were square on the one side to the length of twenty-eight, and on the other of twenty-one inches, and it then gradually became narrower until at the head its width was only ten inches. When the cist was cleared of its accumulation of soil and rats' bones—of which scores of jaw-bones were present, thus showing the large number of these ravaging animals which had taken up their abode there—it presented one of the most beautiful and interesting examples of primeval architecture ever exhumed. It contained the skeleton of an adult, laid on his left side, in the usual contracted position, but without any pottery or flint. The skull, of which an outline engraving is given at the head of this article, is a most interesting and characteristic example of the cranium of an ancient Coritanian Briton. It belongs to the series which Dr. Davis has named *typical*. It is brachy-cephalic, and is the subject of deformity from nursing on the cradle-board in infancy.* It is the skull of a middle-aged man, and is remarkably well formed. The bones, with the exception of some of the small ones, were all remaining, and will form a skeleton of considerable ethnological interest. The small bones were gnawed away by the rats, and it is curious to see to what distances, in some interments, these active little animals have dragged even large bones from their original resting-places. It may not be without interest to note, that within the skull of this skeleton the bones of a rat, head and all, were found imbedded in the soil, along with some small stones, which he doubtless had dragged in with him on his last excursion.

In the afternoon of the same day, we continued our excavations in a north-easterly direction, as shown at G on the plan, and found another interment, but without a cist or any other notable remains.

On Tuesday, the 25th, we commenced opening that portion of the centre of the barrow between the cists already described, and soon came upon an interment of an adult person, as shown on the plan at E. The bones were very much disturbed, but sufficient remained to show that the deceased had been placed on his right side, in the same contracted position as the others in this mound. The body was not more than twelve inches below the surface, and was much disturbed, but it is more than probable the top of the barrow had at some distant time been taken off, most likely for the sake of the stone. The position of this interment will be seen on reference to the plan, and it is also shown on the small vignettes, as well as on Plate XX.

Glutton Hill.—On the afternoon of the 25th November, we examined a barrow on the summit of GLUTTON HILL, on the opposite side of the dale, and made two small openings, one in the centre, and another on the side. We found a considerable number of rats' bones and traces of interments, but the bones, including portions of skulls, were very fragmentary and scattered about.

* See Note on the Distortions which present themselves in the crania of the Ancient Britons, by J. Barnard Davis, M.D., in the *Natural History Review* for July, 1862, page 290.

The situation of this barrow is one of the finest which it is possible to imagine, commanding an extent of country ranging for many miles in every direction, and embracing such glorious hills, or rather mountains, and valleys, as perhaps no other district, even in the most wild and beautiful parts of this county, which is so rich in magnificent scenery, can produce. Our Celtic forefathers were men of sublime taste; they raised their grave-mounds on the tops of the highest mountains, where the view was the grandest, the air the purest, and the elevation the most conspicuous from the surrounding country. They could look up to their dead, and see the cairns they had so religiously piled over them, whenever they went within the range of vision. They could see them against the distant horizon in the early morning greyneess, in the full light of the noon-day, and in the lowering of the evening; and at night when the watch-fires were lit, they were still more clearly discernible.

There is something truly sublime in the notion of being buried in such spots as were chosen by these ancient people, and it is pleasant to stand at an open barrow and contemplate in imagination the rites which have been observed in its construction. Many such barrows which have already been opened, exist in the district of the High Peak, and we trust that the record of our labours in the grave-mounds now under notice, may be useful to the readers of the "RELIQUARY," in which it is fitting that the reports of such discoveries should be chronicled.

LLEWELLYNN JEWITT.

December 4, 1862.

THE MOST RECENT DISCOVERIES AT WROXETER.

BY THOMAS WRIGHT, M.A., F.S.A., &c., &c., &c.

DURING the greater part of the past year, the excavations at Wroxeter were discontinued, chiefly because the excavation funds were low, and because the circumstances of the time were not favourable for attempting to raise subscriptions. The secret evidences of the history of Roman-Britain which lie buried under the fields of Wroxeter, will, indeed, never be sufficiently revealed, until our Government interferes and furnishes more ample and more regular funds than can be supplied by private contributions. While we wait for this, we must be satisfied to get knowledge by fragments, and it is but a fragment or two, though interesting fragments, which we have now to announce.

It will be remembered, that in our last notice of these excavations, we described the first attempts to discover the character of the town wall, by excavations in a field which formed part of the glebe land. At first, nothing but the foss was formed, with a vallum or embankment on each side, carefully formed of clay. Further search, however, revealed the remains of the wall itself, which presented an appearance quite unusual in Roman masonry. The Roman walls of towns in this island best known, such as Richborough, Pevensey, Lymne, Burgh

Castle, Colchester, York, &c., are formed of small stones, &c., laid in immensely hard mortar, which is mixed with pounded tiles and faced externally with carefully squared stones, laid in regular layers, and divided at intervals by horizontal string-courses of tiles. In some instances, as at Silchester, Caerwent, &c., the courses of tiles are omitted, and there is no pounded tile in the mortar, which, with the masonry itself, is of inferior character. But at Wroxeter, it was a matter of some surprise to find that the walls of defence of Roman Uriconium were of ruder construction than any previously known. They appear to have consisted merely of small boulder stones, or rather large cobble-stones, and small stones from the quarry, set without any order in clay, the wall being raised apparently on a foundation of clay. This wall appears to have been on average about six feet thick, and its faces appear to have been simply smoothed, for there were no traces of facing stones. We can of course form no notion of its original height, for it was found to be broken away nearly to the foundation. As it would be much more easily broken up than the

hard masonry of the walls of the houses, it was, perhaps, the first to be carried away for building materials in the middle ages. Its appearance, when uncovered in the field of the vicar's glebe, is represented in the accompanying cut, from a sketch by Mr. Hillary Davies, of Shrewsbury,



which also will give the reader a good notion of the appearance of the bank or ridge which marks the line of the ancient town walls, as it runs through the field in nearly its whole course. These discoveries were made in the latter part of the year 1861, and excavations were then made at one or two distant points on the line of the wall, in which the latter, with its accompanying foss, always presented the same appearance. The excavations were then discontinued until the month of October, 1862.

In the large maps made by the Ordnance surveyors, from which the printed maps are abridged, the site of the principal entrance gateway of the Roman city is marked, as though traces of it had been met with, at the spot where the Watling-street from London entered it from the north-east, and it had become interesting, with such a rudely constructed wall as that described above, to ascertain, if possible, what was the character of the gateway. Accordingly, at the beginning of last October, a few men were employed to dig on the spot indicated as the site of the gateway in the Ordnance Survey Map. They found the wall, built in the same rude manner as in the other places where it had been met with, but in better preservation, and standing to a greater height—perhaps to between four and five feet. The workmen

cut through the wall at this spot, and made the section which is represented in the accompanying sketch. Here, also, no traces of facing-



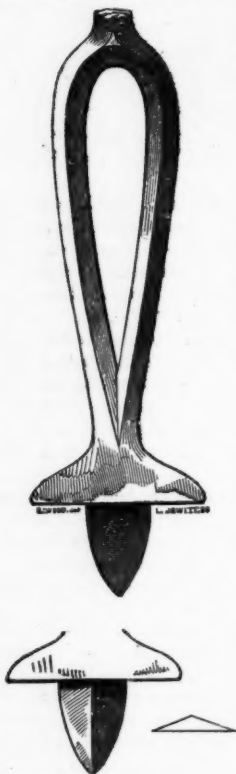
stones were found. As the wall approached the lane, which here runs on the old Watling-street, it ended abruptly, and appeared evidently to have been discontinued, but no foundations of buildings of any kind were met with. It would thus appear that the entrance to the town was merely through an opening in the wall, and that, if there were any gateway, it was perhaps a building of wood. It must, however, be stated that these excavations were only made on the Western side of the Watling-street road, in a field occupied by Mr. Bayley, of Norton, and that the ground in the field on the other side of the road has not yet been examined. In tracing the line of the wall further in Mr. Bayley's field, and digging trenches at right angles to it, it was found to have been accompanied, as before, with the external foss, formed in the same manner with clay.

It thus appears evident that the city of Uriconium had been, as we might suppose by its form, originally a great open town, and that it had no wall of defence until probably the latest period of its existence, when it had grown over its greatest extent of ground, and at a time when foreign invasions and internal dissensions rendered it necessary for every town to defend itself. The Uriconian's had then thrown up this wall, which is estimated at between three and four miles in length, and was evidently, by the form of the area it encloses, drawn close round the outskirts of the ground which was built upon, hastily and in the rough manner which the remains of it present to our view. It can never have afforded a very strong defence, from its great extent, and from the circumstance that, no doubt in consequence of its following the circuit of the buildings of the town, in many places its position with regard to the ground outside is weak.

During these excavations no objects of interest were found, in fact, little beyond fragments of Roman pottery and tiles, and, I believe, one or two worn coins; but this was not the case with the excavations on which the men were next employed. During the autumn of 1861, a larger field, which had formed part of the site of the principal cemetery of Roman Uriconium, was carefully examined, and a considerable number of graves were opened, which contributed to the museum at Shrewsbury an important Roman inscription, and many sepulchral

urns, glass vessels, lamps, and other objects. These graves appeared to have formed the extremity of the burial-ground towards the city, but little doubt was felt of its extending along the side of the Roman road over the fields to the northward, perhaps to a considerable distance, and it was suspected that the better graves may have lain in that direction. It happened, fortunately, that at the moment when

it was considered advisable to discontinue the investigations of the wall, the field next adjoining the one which had been excavated in the previous year, was in a state in which it could be dug without injury to the cultivator, and Mr. Jukes, the tenant, gave full permission to excavate. The Western part of it was therefore fully excavated, and many fine earthen and glass vessels were found, in much better general preservation than those in the other field. In one place there seemed to have been a small sepulchral chamber, round which the urns, &c., had perhaps been arranged. Samian ware and other descriptions of Roman pottery were also found, and lamps with artistic figures on them, and a certain number of miscellaneous objects. The most curious of these was a Roman surgeon's lancet, an object which, as far as I can recollect, is quite unique. It is represented in the accompanying cut, the size of the original. The handle is formed by a lobe or oblong ring of bronze, at the top of which is the portion of a continuation, which has been broken off—probably a knob. At the bottom is a circular disc, which forms a sort of guard to the blade, which is triangular, and formed of steel, and the whole is in a good state of preservation. It no doubt belonged to a surgeon of Uriconium, whose ashes were buried in this spot, and his lancet placed in the grave with him. It was found lying with a



number of other things, which had been carelessly scattered about by the excavator before they were seen, but they appear to have been contained, or at least a part of them, in a wooden box, the lock of which is remarkably well preserved, and has a portion of the wood attached to it. Among the small objects which appear to have been placed in the box, were some beads of coloured and striped glass, a portion of a needle or bodkin, what appeared to be the handle of a little spoon, other small fragments of metal,

and the remains of two very small earthen vessels, containing some very hard material like white paint dried. It has been suggested that these may have been all objects connected with a lady's toilet, and that therefore the lancet may not have belonged to the box. The lancet had a wooden case, lined with leather, considerable fragments of which, both case and lining, are preserved. It should be stated also that in this field, as well as in the one examined in 1861, no example has been found of interment without cremation. The excavations were interrupted by the necessity of leaving the ground to the agricultural operations which could no longer be delayed.

Since the above was in type, a friend, recently returned from Italy, has lent me Carlo Ceci's Work on the smaller bronzes in the Museum at Naples, "Piccoli Bronzi del Real Museo Borbonico," published at Naples in 1858. Among the surgical instruments found at Pompeii, and given in this volume, is a figure of a case of such instruments, which is copied in the accompanying cut. They cannot be drawn out in consequence of the oxidation, which has attached them all together internally, but the breaking away of the upper end of the case, has left the ends of the instruments visible. We cannot doubt for a moment that the instrument to the right is a lancet similar to that discovered at Wroxeter and engraved above. The one in the middle, of which another example, perfect and separate from any case, is described in Ceci's Italian text as *Istrumento cerusico formato da sottil verga che termina a punta uncinata ed acuminata*, a surgical instrument formed of a delicate rod which terminates in a hooked and sharp point; and in the more brief description in French which accompanies the Italian, it is called *lancette cérébrale*. The third instrument in this case is a small spatula. There can be little doubt that the Wroxeter example was a case of surgical instruments closely resembling the one found at Pompeii, and among several small fragments of bronze gathered from the debris, and which evidently belonged to the other instruments of the set, is one which is clearly the head of the spatula. The similarity in shape of the handle of the lancet found at places so distant from each other as Pompeii and British Uriconium, and deposited there at periods the distance between which we do not know, furnishes a curious example of the uniformity of types and forms through the whole Roman Empire.



London, December 21st, 1862.

Original Document.

THE following highly interesting thirteenth century document, relating to land and houses at Locko, is printed from the original in the possession of the Editor. The document is small but beautifully written. The seal has unfortunately been destroyed. It is here printed from a transcript made for the Editor by the late Mr. Bateman —

Sciatis presentes et futuri quod ego Nicholaus, filius Roberti le Wyne concessi et relaxavi et donavi et quietu clamavi pro me et heredibus meis Alano de Pickworth et heredibus suis vel assignatis et eorum heredibus totum jus meum et clamum quod habui vel habere potui in tota terra cum tofto et domibus suppositis et omnibus aliis pertinentibus suis que Robertus des Poer die Dominice in ramis palmarum Anno Domini M.C.C. sexagesimo primo tenuit de predicto Alano ad tunc in villa et vicinia de Lochay. Staquo neque ego nec heredes mei seu aliquis alius nomine nostro in tota predicta terra ne in aliqua ipsius parte aliquod juris vel clamum potuerint habere (or facere) vel hanc terram exigere seu vendicare potuerint. Pro hac autem concessione relaxatione et quieta clamacione dedit mei predictus Alanus sex marcas argenti in *terram meam* predictam quod ego Nicholaus et heredes mei predicto Alano et heredibus suis et eorum heredibus totam predictam terram cum domibus et omnibus aliis pertinentibus (or pertinentiis) suis ut superdictum est contra omnes gentes warrantizabunt agerabunt et defendabunt in perpetuum in hujus rei testimonium presenti scripto sigillum meum apposui. Hiis testibus Willelmo de Chaddesden, clerico: Rogero de Draycott, clerico: Joh: de Loyak in Chaddesden: Elya de Stretton in eadem: Galfride Barri de eadem: Roberto fil' Aurey de Spondon: Radulpho in Anglo de eadem, et Aliis.

The document may be thus translated —

Know ye all men present and to come, that I Nicholas son of Robert le Wyne have granted and released and given and have quitted claim for myself and my heirs to Alan de Pickworth and to his heirs or assigns and to their heirs all my right and claim which I have had or have been able to have in the whole land with a toft and the houses placed upon it and to all other things pertaining to it which Robert de Poer held from the aforesaid Alan until Palm Sunday of the 1261st year of the Lord, in the town and neighbourhood of Lochay (Locko) so that neither I nor my heirs nor any other person in our name shall be able to have (or to make) any thing of right or claim in the whole or any part of the aforesaid land, or to demand disturb or sell the land— And for this grant, release, and quit claim the said Alan gave me six marks of silver for my land aforesaid wherefore I Nicholas and my heirs will warrant and defend in perpetuity against all people to the aforesaid Alan and to his heirs and to their heirs the whole land aforesaid with the houses and all other things pertaining to it as is above written. In testimony of this thing I have placed my seal to the present writing. These being witnesses. William de Chaddesden, clerk: Roger de Draycott, clerk: John de Loyak in Chaddesden: Elya de Stretton of the same place: Galfride Barri of the same place: Robert, son of Avrey de Spondon: Ralph "in Anglo" of the same place; and others.

Notes on Books.

CHINA AND THE CHINESE.*

AN extremely pretty and interesting little book on this, to Englishmen, important country, and the singular habits and characteristics of its inhabitants, by the wife of

* *China and its People; a Book for Young Readers.* By a MISSIONARY'S WIFE. London: Nisbet & Co., 1862. Illustrated, pp. 140.

a missionary long resident there, has just reached a second edition. It is intended, ostensibly, for young readers, but contains much information which will be useful to people of mature years, and gives perhaps as good an insight into the principal features of Chinese home-life, as any larger work which has been written. It is fully illustrated, with nicely executed wood engravings, which add much to its interest. Who the "Missionary's Wife" is, we know not, but she has done both wisely and well in issuing this little book, of which we are glad to see a second edition has so soon been called for.

TYNDALE'S TESTAMENT.*

MR. FRANCIS FRY, of Bristol, who is well known in the literary world as a collector of bibles, and as the possessor of a fine collection of rare editions, has recently issued, at great cost, a perfect fac-simile, page by page, of Tyndale's translation of the New Testament, which was originally printed in 1525-6. This, of course it is understood, was the first complete edition of the New Testament printed in the English language, and of it only one perfect copy, Mr. Fry states, is known to be in existence, which is now preserved in the Library of the Baptist College at Bristol, to which Institution it was bequeathed by Dr. Giffard, in 1784. No printer's name appears to the original, but Mr. Fry has ably and satisfactorily, in our opinion, proved it to be the work of Peter Schoeffer, second son of Peter Schoeffer, the celebrated printer of Mayence, who was for some years partner with John Faust. Mr. Fry deserves the thanks of every bibliographer, for the careful manner in which he has produced the fac-simile of this choice volume—a volume which, taken in connection with the troublous times in which Tyndale lived, and with the many perils and obstacles he encountered in its preparation, possesses far more than ordinary interest. Judging from the specimens we have seen of the fac-similes contained in the reprint, we should say that Mr. Fry's work has been executed as ably as it was possible to do it, and that the reprint is in all respects a faithful copy, letter by letter, of the original. We perceive that only one hundred and seventy-five copies of this work have been printed, and that the fac-similes have been removed from the stones, so that the copy bids fair to become, ere long, almost as scarce as the original.

THE ETHNOLOGY OF BRITAIN.†

WE take, with extreme pleasure, the opportunity afforded us by the issuing, to subscribers, of the fifth decade of "*Crania Britannica*," to direct the attention of our readers to that admirable and more than ordinarily valuable work. The present part, or rather "decade" as its authors term it, is in every way equal to those which have preceded it, and fully carries out the intention of its authors, while it more than fulfils the promises they held out in their original prospectus. It is, undoubtedly, by far the best work which has yet been attempted on ethnology, and is as far superior in excellence and in matter to the much vaunted "*Crania Americana*," as that work is to others on the same subject which have been issued. Our late highly-esteemed friend, Col. Hamilton Smith, did much for British Ethnology, but his labours were as nothing when compared with those of the authors of this truly valuable work.

In the present decade, Dr. Thurnam completes his admirable "*Historical Ethnology of Britain*," which is, without exception, the best, the fullest, the most reliable, and therefore the most valuable, essay which has ever been written on the history of the early inhabitants of these islands. A more carefully digested history of our Celtic forefathers, their habits, arts, language, etc., than that prepared by Dr. Thurnam, it would be difficult to prepare, and whoever did attempt to prepare it, would be in-

* *The First New Testament printed in the English Language (1525 or 1526)*. Translated from the Greek by William Tyndale. Reproduced in fac-simile, with an Introduction, by FRANCIS FRY, F.S.A. Bristol, 1862.

† *Crania Britannica. Delineations and Descriptions of the Skulls of the Aboriginal and Early Inhabitants of the British Islands; together with notices of their other remains*. By J. BARNARD DAVIS, M.D. and J. THURNAM, M.D. Folio. Printed for subscribers only.

debted to him for most of his materials. "This division of British Ethnology has not," says the writer, "hitherto been treated of in its combined historical, antiquarian, and philological aspects; and it is hoped this chapter may, in some measure, supply this deficiency. English writers have too commonly ignored or neglected the Celtic elements of our history, forgetting to how great an extent, even in England itself, these enter into our institutions, speech and lineage, and that, in each division of the United Kingdom, the Celtic-speaking populations are still to be counted by myriads. It has been well said, that a great nation was never formed but by the union of different peoples; and it would ill become the representatives of the Saxon to disparage the part played by the Celt in the constitution of their common country." In this Dr. Thurnam is right, and the publication of his admirable dissertation will do much towards placing the study of the Celtic people on its proper footing. Following the "Historical Ethnology of Britain," is the commencement of an "Ethnographical Sketch of the successive populations of the British Islands," the completion of which, in the next decade, we shall look forward to with no little anxiety.

The Crania depicted and described in the present part are as follows—*Ancient British*, from Green Low, Derbyshire (region of the Coritani); Roundway Hill, Wiltshire (region of the Belgæ); Ballard Down, Dorset (region of the Durotriges); and West Kennet, Wiltshire (region of the Dobuni). *Ancient Roman*, from the Sarcophagus of L. Volusius Secundus, at Latium, and from White Horse Hill, Berkshire. *Anglo-Saxon*, from Linton Heath, Cambridgeshire (kingdom of East Angles); and Long Wittenham, Berkshire (kingdom of Wessex). *Ancient Norse*, from Nisibost, Outer Hebrides. Each skull is depicted of full size, in the most exquisitely careful and beautiful manner, in lithography, by Mr. Ford, and it is not too much to say, that for texture of the bone, and for scrupulous accuracy of detail, they are far superior to any other representations of Crania we have seen. In addition to these plates, each skull is again engraved of one-fourth its size, in four different positions, and given with the text, which is also well interspersed with engravings of different objects found with the interments.

The Green-Low Barrow, Alsop Moor, Derbyshire, to which we have alluded, was opened by the late Mr. Bateman, in the spring of 1845, and has been described by him in his "Vestiges of the Antiquities of Derbyshire," but is here more fully described by Dr. Davis, and as an interesting and excellent example of the contents of his admirable book, we quote it entire, with the exception of the long foot-notes which accompany it. "The tumulus," says Dr. Davis, "had been heaped over a rocky and unequal surface, in which a cist had been cut. In the upper portion of the barrow a few human bones, and the teeth of horses, were met with, accompanied by the osseous remains of the ever-present water-vole. When the soil was cleared out of the cist, the skeleton of a man in the prime of life was laid bare, placed in the flexed position, with the knees drawn up nearly to the head. Behind the shoulders lay a fine drinking-cup, a spherical piece of pyrites, a small flint instrument, and an elegant dagger-blade of the same material. Behind the back, three beautiful barbed flint arrow-heads, other ruder objects of flint, and three bone implements from 5 to 8 inches long; and, across the pelvis, a bone pin, were found. Near the hips were the bones of an infant.

The skull exhumed from this barrow is marked by massiveness in every feature, which will be rendered apparent by our figures and measurements. It is one of the most bulky met with in the North Derbyshire and Staffordshire barrows. The face is large, with every lineament expressed; upright; deeply depressed in the cheeks; mouth capacious, and still retaining a perfect set of teeth, the enamel of which vies with the finest ivory in whiteness, the incisors and canines alone being worn down. On the right side an accident has occurred in the development of the first large grinder in the lower series. The teeth have become a little crowded; and the two adjacent ones have overtopped this molar, confined it, and prevented its upward evolution, without, however, superinducing any disease. The lower jaw is large and heavy, wide at the angles, which are rounded without being everted—the distance inside between the condyles is 3.5 inches. The orbits are wide; the superciliary ridges full; the portion of the nasal bones remaining shows a considerable prominence of the nose, the orifice of the nostrils being narrow; the frontal bone is of unusual magnitude, and not deficient in elevation, although of less prominence in the upper half than besems so massive a skull. In this region the transversal arch is long and flat. The coronal suture is very open at the sides. The parietal bosses are well marked, and the interdiameter of this region exceeds that of the intermastoid diameter. The calvarium is also unusually deep in this region. The occipital is likewise capacious, and externally rugged. There is a large external flat surface, extending from near the middle of the parietal bones backwards, and covering the upper half of the occipital—a flatness frequently seen in ancient British skulls. In this case the flatness is more depressed on the right than on the left side; yet the skull was laid on the left side in the barrow, which shows that the flatness is not posthumous. The mastoids are

bulky, with deep grooves within them. There is a distinct paroccipital tubercle on the left side. The foramen magnum is lozenge-shaped; the bony palate well-arched and wide. The trumpet-shaped external auditory orifice is surmounted by a distinct supra-auditory ridge, continued backwards from the zygoma.

MEASUREMENTS.

Horizontal circumference ... 21·5 inches.	Parietal Region.—Height ... 5·3 "
Longitudinal diameter..... 7·4 "	Occipital Region.—Length... 4·9 "
Frontal Region.—Length ... 5·1 "	Breadth 4·8 "
Breadth ... 5·2 "	Height .. 4·4 "
Height ... 5·4 "	Intermastoid arch.....16·0 "
Parietal Region.—Length ... 5·3 "	Internal capacity 88 ounces.
Breadth... 6·0 "	Face.—Length 4·7 inches.

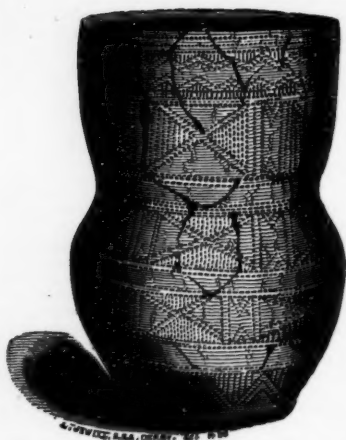
This cranium is brachy-cephalic, and belongs to the typical series of the aboriginal Britons, yet is somewhat platy-cephalic also. It is the impressive relic of a bulky man, who appears to have perished in the midst of his career, at an age probably not much beyond 30 years. It is difficult to look upon such a memento of the ancient dead without forming exalted ideas of its possessor; without conceiving of the strength of his arm; of the skill and prowess which attended him in the chase or fight; of his power, both corporeal and mental, applicable to the exigencies of his tribe, or to those of neighbouring tribes. That he was an object of great respect, although so young, is shown by the relics of those feral rites with which his corpse was honoured. This fine massive skull, bearing unquestionable marks of its ancient British derivation, is a proof that size was sometimes a legitimate element in this series, and casts a doubt upon the phrenological doctrine of development by the influences of civilization, in its unconditional form. The Green Lowe barrow belongs to the earliest period, and was rich in highly wrought siliceous instruments, all of which presented the blanched look of calcination.

The elegant flint dagger is formed of a rather thin flake, and has been chipped with great care and exactness. It is a close prototype of the bronze dagger of a later age. The bone pin is of an ordinary character, and four inches in length.

The bone instruments with blunt extremities, one of which is shown in the woodcut, are made of the ribs of an animal, probably a small ox, and have also been met with in the Wiltshire barrows. The ingenious conjecture of Mr. Bateman, that they were modelling tools for making pottery, or mesh-rules for netting, appears very probable.



Flint Dagger-blade, 6 in. long, and Arrow-heads; Bone Implement and Pin, from Green Lowe Barrow.



*Drinking-cup, 7.4 in. high, from
Green Loeve Barrow.*

On a former page* we have described the opening of some Celtic barrows by ourselves during the present autumn, and have shown on Plate XX the flexed position in which the skeletons are usually found in barrows of this district. It is interesting in connection with this, to be able to give on Plate XXI so beautiful a representation of the same mode of interment obtaining in Wiltshire at a contemporaneous period. This illustration is one given by Dr. Davis in his account of an Ancient British skull from Roundway Hill, North Wilts, and is an excellent specimen of the style of illustrations of his "*Crania Britannica*." The skeleton lay in an oblong oval cist, five feet long by two and a half feet wide, smoothly hollowed out of the chalk. Along with it was a barbed flint arrow-head, a bronze dagger, a slate tablet, and the drinking-cup shown in the accompanying engraving. This cup, which was found at the feet of the skeleton, was 6½ inches in height, and was highly ornamented. Its form will be seen to be very differ-

This vase has been elaborated with great pains, and as much taste as the simple method of decoration admits. The ornamentation has been done with a pointed tool, by free-hand drawing; and the lines afterwards stippled with rows of dots, perhaps by means of a crenated piece of wood. Besides the horizontal lines round the vase, the chief design is a double zigzag, which occurs in three series, the first in the neck, the two lower on the belly—the lowest line being confined to a single zigzag. No doubt this specimen of the figuline art, to be devoted to the funeral honours of most likely a chief, was produced by delicate female hands. Vessels of this kind, as is well known, are not cinerary urns, but appear to have held potatoes for the presumed posthumous repasts of the dead. When found, they do not contain ashes, but are generally empty; in some instances they have unequivocal marks, inside, of having been partly filled with liquids."



* Page 159 et seq., ante.



CHALK CIST AND INTERMENT, ROUNDWAY HILL, NORTH WILTSHIRE.

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ent from the drinking-cups of the Coritanian Celts in Derbyshire, an excellent example of which is that shown from Green Lowe, on page 178.

It may be well to remark, *en passant*, that as "Crania Britannica," is printed for subscribers only, and as the number of copies printed is very limited, it is well for archaeologists, and ethnologists who may wish to possess themselves of it, to send in their names to our friend Dr. Davis before the issuing of the next and final decade. We cannot too strongly commend the work, nor too cordially recommend it to our readers.

Notes, Queries, and Gleanings.

SPONDON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE RELIQUARY.

SIR—Will you allow me to deposit in your "RELIQUARY" the following interesting scrap, which has been furnished to me in Latin by "an Old Inhabitant" of Spondon? I should be thankful, too, if your readers could furnish me with any additional information upon the subject which they may happen to possess.

H. L. KEMP.

(EXTRACT FROM RYMER'S FOEDERA, VOL. II. pt. 2, pp. 11—33).

Concerning the Destruction by Fire of the Town and Church of Spondon, in the County of Derby, in the 14th Year of the Reign of Edward the Third, A.D. 1340.

The men of Spondon complain to the King, that their church and town and all their goods and chattels being wholly destroyed by an accidental fire, they are not able to pay their subsidies and beg to be excused.

The King orders the collectors of subsidies of skins and wool, &c., not to make any collection there until inquiry shall have been made into the truth of the matter, whether it is as the men of Spondon have stated or not.

For this purpose the King appoints his beloved subjects Roger Bakewell, Richard Deyncourt, Edward Chandos, and Godfrey Foljambe, to make inquiry into the truth of the affairs, and what might be the value of the place previous to the fire, and the amount of the damage done, and what might be left them, so that they could be able to pay, and to take oath of the same with the legal men of the county.

On inquiry, they report that the Church with the Bell-tower, the Bells, Books, vestments, and all the ornaments of the Church together with the town, except four houses at the east end of the town were wholly destroyed by an accidental fire, and all their goods and chattels were totally consumed, so that they had nothing left. The damage done was to the amount of a thousand pounds. The fire broke out on the Thursday before the Sunday next before Palm Sunday, about the hour of vespers.

On this report the men of Spondon are excused from paying their subsidies until the Feast of the Purification of the blessed Virgin Mary next ensuing, when they are to be paid in full.

Dated at Birkhampton on the 23rd day of August.

WONDERFUL PHENOMENA.—The following singular account, which I quote from a singular old book entitled, "Admirable Curiosities, Rarities, and Wonders in England," &c., by "R. B.," 1702, will, I think, be interesting to the readers of the "RELIQUARY."

J. SWIFT.

"In April, 1660, about Chesterfield it rained white ashes, so that the fields looked like snow. This year, Nov. 20, the river Derwent at Derby, and five miles above and below, for three or four hours was totally dried up, and no water came to the mills; the boats were all aground, the fishes on the sand, so that children took them up, and the people went over dryshod, tho' Derwent is an inland river, and never ebbs or flows, and is at Derby one hundred foot broad, and seven or eight deep, with a quick fierce stream. Nov. 11, 1662, happen'd a whirlwind at Derby, whereby the town was in four minutes damnified five hundred pounds. It blew the tiles off the houses; threw down barns, trees were torn up by the roots; it overturned stone walls, and broke gates fastened with iron bars into pieces; this wind was accompanied with flames of fire, and some affirmed it rained blood."

THE DIALECT OF THE HIGH PEAK.

SHOO AND SHE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE RELIQUARY.

SIR—I have just been reading your very interesting "RELIQUARY," Vol. II., 1861-2, and wish to direct your attention to the following points—

At page 245, Mr. S. Mitchell, in reference to a paper by Lord Denman, quotes the Rev. Joseph Hunter, thus—"Hoo, she, A.S. heo;" he then goes on to say that it is "still in frequent use in the neighbourhood of Sheffield, although *shoo* as a substitute for *she* is the most common appellation." Now, I believe that *shoo* instead of a substitute for, is the original of, *she*, and in support of this belief, I quote "the English Language, by R. G. Latham, M.D.," &c., page 249 of third edition—"The word *she* has grown out of the Anglo-Saxon *seo*. Now *seo* was in Anglo-Saxon the feminine form of the definite article; the definite article being a demonstrative pronoun."

I have often heard the three forms, *hoo*, *shoo*, and *she*, used during the same morning in Sheffield.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

G. A.

Sheffield, December 17, 1862.

[With regard to the other point to which our correspondent has called our attention, we have to reply that the line in question is printed literally as furnished to us in MS. ED. RELIQ.]

ON BELLAND.

DEAR SIR—In connection with Lord Denman's admirable papers on the "Dialect of the High Peak," which have appeared in the "RELIQUARY," the following notice of *Belland*, which I extract from Leigh's History of Lancashire and the High Peak of Derbyshire, p. 88, will no doubt be found interesting to your readers.

Uttoxeter.

Yours truly,

F. REDFERN.

"But let us consider farther this poisonous Sulphur of *Lead*, which will be better understood by the tragical and various effects which it produces, not only upon Human Kind, but upon Quadrupeds. The other distemper is what the Miners call'd the *Belland*, which discovers itself in the following symptoms—A continual *Asthma* or difficulty of Breathing seizes the Patient, with a dejection of Appetite, his Complexion turns pale and yellowish; these are attended with a dry cough and hoarseness; swelling of the joints and limbs ensue, which are rendered useless. This distemper may be taken either by working in the *Lead Mines*, or by the fumes of the ore in smelting it. These very symptoms happen to horses and other cattle; these generally take the Distemper either by feeding on the grass where the *Lead-Ore* is washed, or by drinking of that water. In some *Horses* that have died of this Disease, the Ore has been found in Lumps and Masses in the Stomach. Let us now enquire into the Cause of these Distempers, since it may perhaps seem strange how an Ore without any diminution of its substance in appearance, should so far affect the extreme parts, as to cause them to swell, and render them useless. In prosecution of which I alledge that it is probable the Sulphur of the Lead is a substance as minute as that of *Antimony* in *Crocus Metallorum*, which we find by daily experience will cause most violent Vomitings, without the least diminution of its weight, why may not this Sulphur then enter the very Penetrabilia of the nerves, and in those by its saline Particles produce a Corrugation, and by that means obstruct the Influence of such a proportion of Spirits as are necessary to Nutrition! Hence the blood becomes dispirited, and performs not its due circulation, but stagnates in various parts of the body; the serum becomes effete and Viscid, and thence proceed Hoarseness, *Asthma*, weakness and swelling in the joints. It is probable this distemper in the beginning, before it has too far affected the nerves, might be cured by repeated Emetics, but after it has once advanced to that state, all endeavours are vain."

THE HATHERSAGE COCKING.

Then great Bill Brown came swagg'ring down,
I'll hold you a Guinea to a Crown,
That let the black Cock have fair play,
And he'll drive the sod of the bonny Gray.
Singing tol de rol de riddle lol de ra,
Tol lol de riddle lol de ra.

"This tune is an especial favourite in Derbyshire and Warwickshire, and may frequently be heard in the alehouses to these and to other words. It was given to the Editor by the late Mr. Ward, of Manchester, with several which he had collected, and occasionally entertained his friends by singing, in the provincial dialect. From the testimony of two persons he traced it back one hundred and twenty years."—*National English Airs*. Edited by W. Chappell. 1839.

Query—Is any more of this song known to be in existence? If so, perhaps some correspondent may be able to send it to the "RELIQUARY." W. S.

"WASTE NOT, WANT NOT."

Some ninety years ago, a Leek silk-manufacturer having taken one of his *employés* into his household as footman, was surprised, while entertaining a London friend at dinner one day, to find that "Tummas," instead of attending to his duties and changing the plates, was quietly discussing the remnants of the feast at the sideboard. On remonstrating with him, the only answer vouchsafed was—"Lawks, mester! this mon does'na holf poike his boones." ELLIOT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE RELIQUARY.

CAN any of your readers help me to a description of the arms of the following Derbyshire families, towards completing a list I am making of all that are or have been territorially connected with the county?

JOHN BLEIGH.

Thornbridge, Bakewell.

Aderley, of Heage.
Allport, of Allport.
Archer of Abney, Highlow and Hucklow.
Beeley, or Beeleigh, of Beeley.
Boam, of Bakewell.
Bonsall, of Bonsall.
Bothe, of Barrow.
Bourne, of Ashover.
Brampton, of Brampton.
Brimington, of Brimington.
Broadhurst, of Foston.
Brushfield, of Brushfield.
Cadman, of Cowley.
Cantrell, of King's Newton.
Durandesthorpe, or Donisthorpe, of Donisthorpe.
Edensor, of Hartington.
Folcher, or Foucher, of Windley.
Fowne, or Le Fun, of Yeaveley and Alderwasley.
Glapwell, of Glapwell.
Gould, of Hartington.
Gregory, of Bramcote House.
Hacker, of Sawley.
Harrison, of Snelston.

Hopton, of Hopton.
Johnson, of Horsley.
Lomas, of Hartington.
Neville, of Brassington.
Norton, of Norton.
Nodder, of Ashover.
Outram, of Butterley.
Padley, of Padley.
Pickford, of Sterndale.
Plesley, of Plesley.
Puraglove, of Tideswell.
Pymme, of Long Eaton.
Ribsof, of Etwall.
Rowland, of Rowland and Great Longadon.
Sheldon, of Sheldon.
Somersall, of Somersall.
Stafford, of Eyam.
Sterndale, of Sterndale and Hartington.
Stuffyn, of Shirbrook.
Swindell, of Brailsford.
Trusley, of Trusley.
Wigfall, of Charter-hall.
Winfield, of Edelstow.
Wright, of Ripley.

A RELIC OF "1745."

I have now before me an old stone bottle, some eight inches high, light in colour, and bearing upon it the words, "SACK, 1640." Insignificant as it is, it possesses some little interest, and claims connection with the stirring times of the "Rebellion of '45." On the rumoured approach of the insurgents at that memorable period, a worthy farmer, then living near Leek, deemed it prudent to conceal his valuables, and had for that purpose raised the flagstones in the stable. At the suggestion, however, of an old woman who was standing by, he changed his plan, and buried his treasures in a heap of manure in the farmyard. Amongst other articles so buried, were forty-eight "sack bottles" full of home-brewed ale; and when the storm was blown over, the owner coming to examine his deposit, found the liquor exceedingly ripe and good. Bottle after bottle on being handed out, met the admiring gaze of an aged (and perhaps expectant) looker on; who being astonished at their apparently great number, exclaimed to the farmer, "Mester, dun you think they'ne bred i' th' hole?" One of these is the bottle before alluded to, which is still possessed by the descendant of the worthy yeoman of 1745. W. B.

"THE BLACK MERE OF MORRIDGE,"

IN THE STAFFORDSHIRE MOORLANDS.

"BLACK MERE," or "Black Mere," is a small pond of irregular shape, lying in a little hollow on the summit of the high hill of Morridge, about three and a half miles E.N.E. from Leek. A visit to it in Summer is pleasant enough, but in Winter, and when the mists of November beset the traveller as he passes the spot—when the cutting winds howl fiercely through the gloomy heath—the pool, naturally dark, appears "black as night," and leads him to term it—

—"That lake, whose gloomy shore
Skylark never warbles o'er."

Such, indeed, was the horror in which the "Black Mere" was held by our ancestors; and such their strange beliefs connected with it, that I have thought it well they should be preserved in the pages of the "RELIQUARY." Camden quoting Nisiam, says it is

"A lake that with prophetic noise doth roar;
Where beasts can ne'er be made to venture o'er—
By hounds, or men, or fester death pursued,
They'll not plunge in, but shun the hated flood."

Dr. Plott, however, in his *History of Staffordshire*, says—"The water of the Black Meer is not so bad as some have fancied, and I take it to be nothing more than such as that in the peat pits, though it be confidently reported that no Cattle will drink of it, no bird light on it, or fly over it; all which are as false as that it is bottomless; it being found upon admeasurement, scarce four yards in the deepest place; my horse also drinking, when I was there, as freely of it as ever I saw him in any other place; and the Fowls are so far from declining to fly over it, that I spoke with several that had seen Geese upon it; so that I take this to be as good as the rest, notwithstanding the vulgar disrepute it lies under."

But this place has yet far more terrible associations—"Hark!" says a manuscript* now lying before me—"Hark! what a shriek of agony! what an appalling scream! what a soul-sickening note of despair! Heavens! 'Tis a woman's voice that cries so loudly for aid; her very throat seems cracking with the intensity of her efforts. Louder! louder! grows the scream, and then a fearful gurgle, sudden and instant, stays the hideous sound; yet the stillness is more ominous than the hitherto frightful din. Not a sound, not a murmur; the senses stunned and palsied by the piercing cry, are now awe-stricken at the deathlike silence which succeeds. But hark! hark! it comes again—quick, like a thunder-clap, it is repeated in all its former agony; the air is filled with the re-vibrations of that wild outcry; horribly distinct, the shriek becomes deafening in the extreme. The voice is unanswered—no other tongue speaks but that despairing one, yet it cries as though some were near to hear it; it appeals as if those were present who could relieve its terror. Again the cry is suddenly hushed, a confused murmur as of one calling from beneath thick folds of cloth wrapped over the mouth, is heard, and then silence deep and deathlike, prevails. But again! again! the head escapes the barbarous hand; again the mouth is clear, the tongue moves, the shriek is repeated; echo sends back the cry, it resounds from all sides, and the air is fraught with the deafening scream—"Help! help! Mercy! mercy!" The cries are quickly stifled; the voice is mute; the tongue dumb; yet the hoarse hollow cry once more faintly sounds, and the low, smothered, guttural whisper bears the same burden, "Help! help! Mercy! mercy!"

"O that the slave had forty thousand lives,
One is too poor, too weak for my revenge."—SHAKESPEARE.

This event is thus ably narrated by the venerable historian before quoted—"Amongst the unusual accidents that have attended the female sex in the course of their lives, I think I may also reckon the narrow escapes they have made from death; whereof I met with one mentioned with admiration by every body at Leek, that happened not far off at the black Meer of Morridge, which, though famous for nothing for which it is commonly reputed, as that it is bottomless; no Cattle will drink of it; or birds fly

* For this MS., containing much useful and interesting information on the Moorlands, I am indebted to the kindness of a friend.

over, or settle upon it (all which I found to be false), yet it is so for the signal deliverance of a poor woman, enticed hither in a dismal stormy night by a bloody Ruffian, who had first gotten her with child, and intended in this remote, inhospitable place, to have dispatched her by drowning.

"The same night (Providence so ordering it), there were several persons of inferior rank drinking in an alehouse* at Leek, whereof one having been out and observing the darkness and other ill circumstances of the weather, coming in again, said to the rest of his companions, that he were a stout man indeed that would venture to go to the black Meer of Morridg, in such a night as that; to which one of them replying that for a crown, or some such summe, he would undertake it; the rest, joining their purses, said he should have his demand. The bargain being struck away he went on his journey with a stick in his hand, which he was to leave there as a testimony of his performance. At length, coming near the Meer, he heard the lamentable cries of this distressed woman begging for mercy; which at first put him to a stand, but being a man of great resolution and some policy, he went boldly on, however, counterfeiting the presence of divers other persons, calling "Jack, Dick, and Thom," and crying, "Here are the rogues we look'd for," which, being heard by the murderer, he left the woman and fled, whom the other man found by the Meer side, almost stript of her clothes, and brought her with him to Leek, as an ample testimony of his having been at the Meer, and of God's Providence too."

This Meer is also termed the "Mermaid Pool," from an old tradition that one of those fabulous creatures dwells in it; in fact, some of the peasants thereabout are ready to swear that when, some years ago the Pool was partially "let off," one appeared, predicting that if the water were allowed to escape "it would drown all Leek and Leekfrith." This vain idea has given origin to the sign of a neighbouring roadside inn—"The Mermaid," a place frequently visited by sportsmen when shooting in the vicinity.

W. B.

Leekfrith.

TRADESMEN'S TOKENS.

It is proposed, probably in the next Number of the "RELICUARY," to commence a careful descriptive account of all the Traders Tokens struck in the County of Derby in the 17th century, in which EACH KNOWN VARIETY is intended to be ENGRAVED, and worked in in the text. The Editor will be thankful for memorandums, with descriptions of any examples which may be in the possession of his readers. He trusts that this announcement may be the means of bringing into notice many unpublished varieties of these highly interesting coins.

TIDESWELL.

In 1806, the Prince of Wales, afterwards King George IV. passed through Tideswell on the Sunday, and caused so great a consternation in the place, that not only the congregation of the parish church, but the clergyman himself, left the church to see him pass. The circumstance gave rise to much merriment, and among the different metrical versions of the story which were written, the following are perhaps worthy of preservation—

TIDESWELL IN AN UPROAR, OR THE PRINCE IN THE TOWN AND THE DEVIL IN THE CHURCH.

Declare, O Muse, what demon 'twas
Crept into Tideswell Church,
And tempted pious folk to leave
Their Parson in the lurch.

What caused this strange disaster, say,
What did the scene provoke?
At which the men unborn will laugh,
At which the living joke.

The Prince of Wales, great George's Heir,
To roam once took a freak;
And as the fates did so decree,
He journey'd through the Peak.

But, ah! my Prince, thy journey turn'd
The Sabbath into fun day;
And Tideswell Lads will ne'er forget,
Thy trav'ling on a Sunday.

* "The Cock," at the corner of the Market Place and Stockwell Street; now a grocer's shop.

The Ringers somehow gain'd a hint,
Their loyalty be praised,
That George would come that way, so got
The Bells already rais'd.

The Prince arrived, then loudest shouts
Thro' Tideswell streets soon rang;
The loyal clappers strait fell down,
With many a merry bang.

To Pulpit high, just then the Priest,
His sacred gown had thrust;
And, strange coincidence! his Text
"In Princes put no trust."

With Man of God they all agreed,
Till bells went clitter clatter;
When expectation did them feed,
But not with heavenly matter.

The congregation, demon rous'd,
Arose with one accord;
And, shameful, put their trust in Prince,
And left the living Lord.

They helter skelter sought the door,
The Church did them disgorge;
With fiercest fury, then they flew,
Like Dragons to the "George."

As through Churchyard with tumult dire
And wild uproar they fled;
Confusion was so great, some thought
They would have rais'd the Dead.

The Parson cried, with loudest lungs,
For love of God, pray stay!
But love of Prince more prevalent,
Soon hid them fast away.

The Demon hov'ring o'er their heads,
Exulted as they pass'd;
Friend Belzebub, the Parson cried,
Thou'st got a Prize at last.

The Clerk then to his master said,
We're left behind complete;
What harm if we start off for Prince,
And run the second heat.

The Parson with good Capon lin'd,
Then ran with middling haste;
Spare Clerk, was at his rear, who knew,
"Amen," should come the last.

Amidst the mob, they soon descried
The Prince, Great Britain's Heir;
Then with the Mob they both did join,
And play'd at gape and stare.

Their wish the sovereign People show,
Impress'd with one accord;
It was to turn themselves to beasts,
And draw their future Lord.

The Prince put forth what's filled with
It was his Royal scone; [sauce,
Insisted they should act like men,
And break their rules for once.

Steeds more appropriate being brought,
Huzzas formed parting speech;
The Prince drove on and people went
To swig with Mrs. Leech.

Thy Flock's frail error, Reverend Sir,
Did serve a loyal dish up;
For which, if Prince has any grace,
He'll surely make thee Bishop.

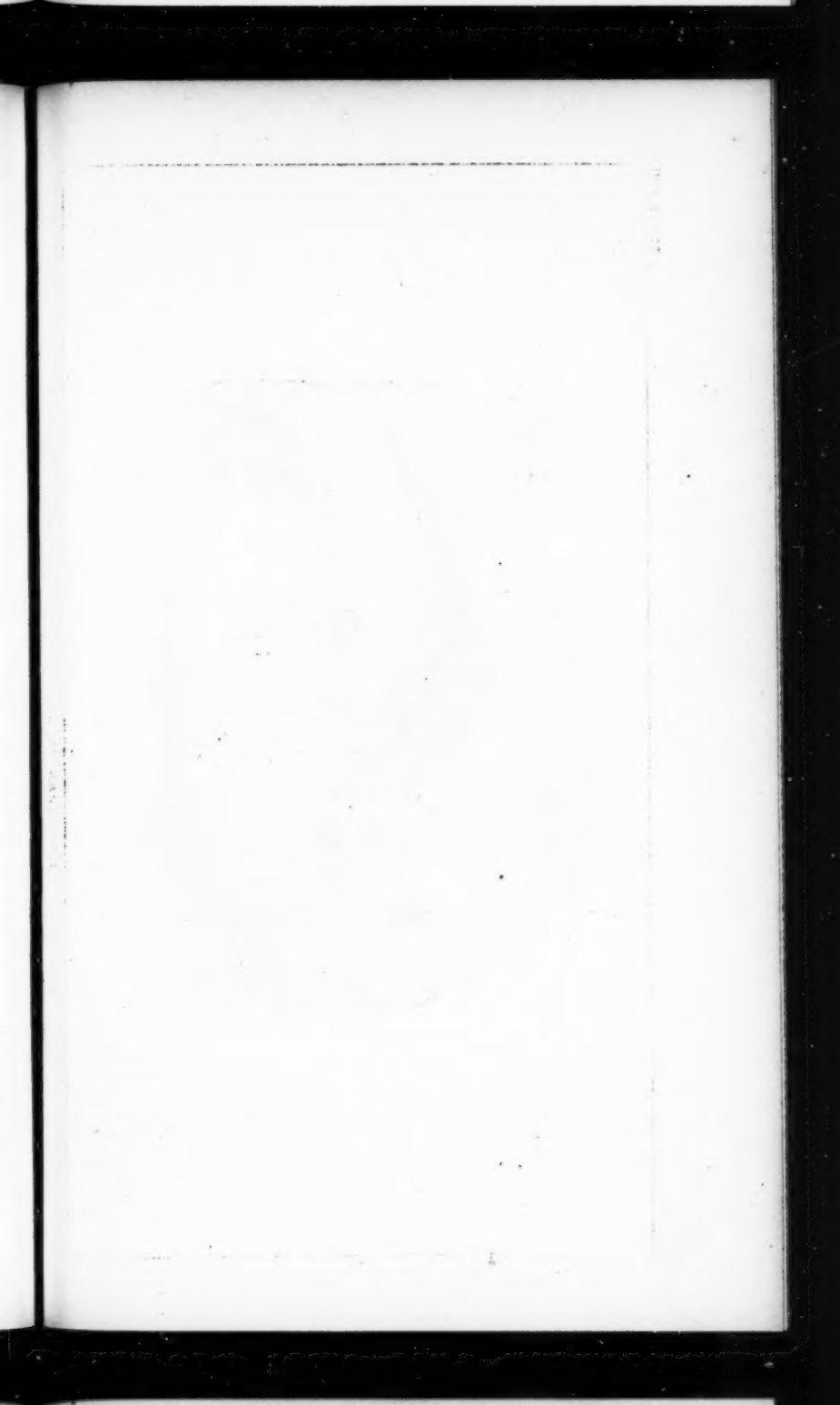
ON THE TIDESWELL PEOPLE LEAVING THE CHURCH TO VIEW THE PRINCE OF WALES, 1806.

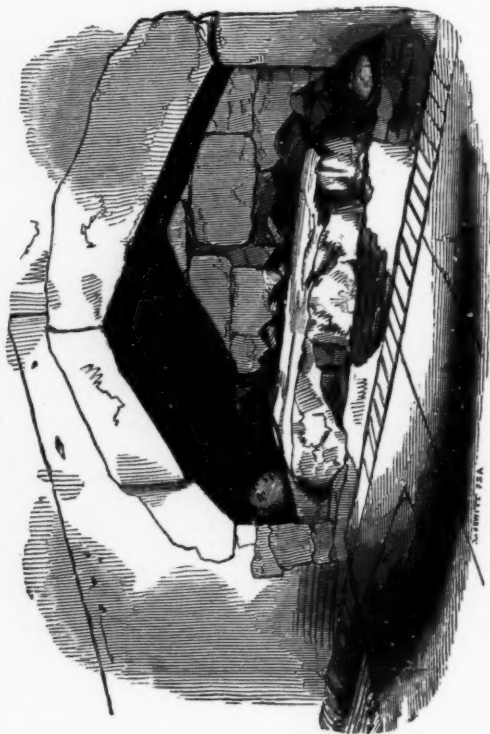
Ye Tideswellites, can this be true,
Which Fame's loud Trumpet brings;
That ye the Cambrian Prince to view,
Forsook the King of Kings?

That ye, when swiftly rattling wheels
Proclaimed his Highness near;
Trode almost on each other's heels,
To leave the House of Prayer.

Another time adopt this plan,
Lest ye be left 'th' lurch;
Place at the end o' th' Town a man
To ask him into th' Church.

GOLD TORQUES FOUND AT TIDESWELL.—In the *Derby Mercury* of September 8, 1749, is the following paragraph—"Derby, Sept. 7. We are informed from Wirksworth, that a Person from Tideswell in this County, not long since, getting up a Stone for a Gate Stud, upon the Common at the Bottom of the said Town, near the Mill, found a Pot, which might contain about a Gill in Measure, and therein a solid Piece of Gold, in Shape like a Handle of Gold Cup, or Chalice, which weighed near Six Ounces. The Pot fell to Pieces in taking up." The "solid piece of gold, in shape like a handle of gold cup or chalice," was, undoubtedly, a torques or armlet. The Editor will be glad if any of his correspondents can tell him of the present "whereabouts" of this interesting relic.





MONUMENT DISCOVERED IN FINDERN CHURCH, DERBYSHIRE.

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